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# PSS drops suit vs NMI govt

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

he Public School System has voluntarily dropped its lawsuit against Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, the Legislature, and the CNMI government that sought to settle the issue of what constitutes the mandated 25-percent funding that PSS should get from general revenues.



PSS, through interim commissioner Glenn Muña, asked the Superior Court to dismiss its lawsuit.

Muña, through counsel Tiberius Mocanu, said the dismissal is without

prejudice, which means PSS may re-

See PSS on Page 4

# 'No violation of NEPA, APA'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ruled yesterday that the U.S. Department of Defense and U.S. Department of the Navy did not violate the National Environmental

Policy Act or the Administrative Procedure Act when they decided to relocate U.S. Marines from Okinawa to Guam—as alleged by the Tinian Women Association and three other environmental groups.

Manglona found that the Defense and Navy's decision to limit

See APA on Page 4



# Kilili: No Air Force decision yet on Tinian

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com

The U.S. Air Force has not yet committed to improve some infrastruc-Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019—

got when he asked Air Force officials about it soon after President Donald J. Trump enacted the military's budget for next fiscal year.

The budget—officially called the ture on Tinian, based on the response John S. McCain National Defense Autional Airport's north side.

would bring in almost \$52 million to Tinian—money that would fund construction of a cargo pad, taxiway extension, and building a maintenance support facility at the Tinian Interna-

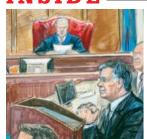
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# Torres to USCIS: Prioritize healthcare, CUC workers

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has asked U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to reserve 260 CNMI-Only Transitional Worker slots for healthcare and utility workers. In a letter to U.S. Department of won't be disrupted. Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen

Nielsen, who oversees USCIS, Torres urged the agency to prioritize these employees to ensure that operations at the Commonwealth Health Center and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

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# **NATION**

Paul Manafort is found guilty of eight financial crimes.

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# **ASIA**

China, the world's largest producer of pork, is battling an African swine fever.

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# LIFE & STYLE

The craze for "Crazy Rich Asians" is hitting Asia, with a premiere in Singapore.

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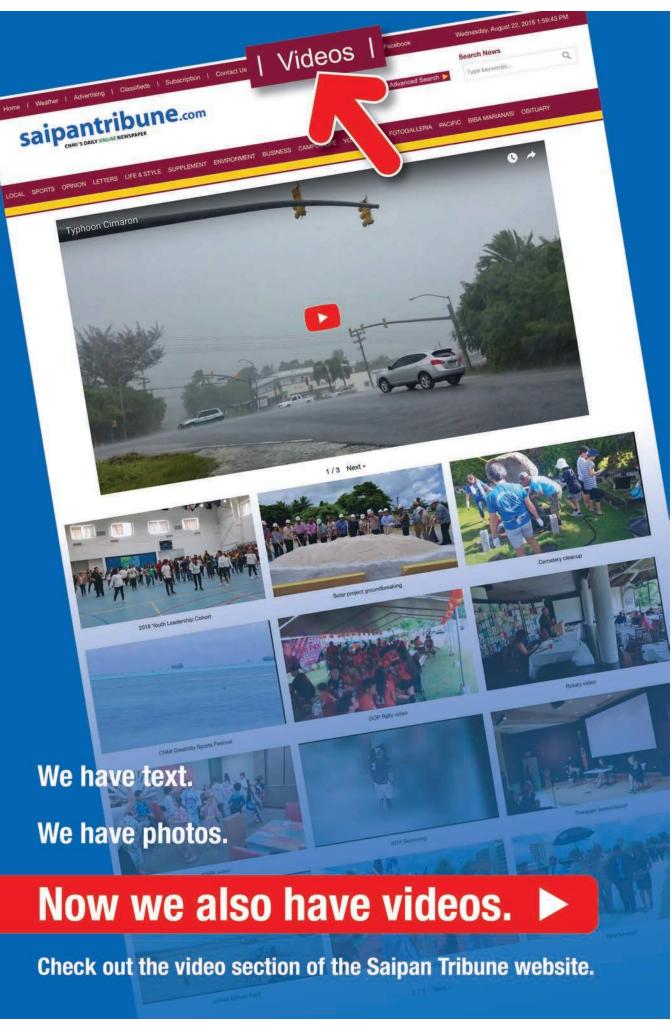


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# Local

Back row, from left, Noel Enriquez, Asia-Pacific operations manager for Stanley Consultants Inc.; Archbishop Michael Byrnes; Norman Lauron, president of Big Fish Creative Inc.; Jon Fernandez, superintendent of Guam Department of Education; Jeffrey Larsen, president of TakeCare Insurance Co.; Dr. Austin Shelton, executive director for UOG's Center for Island Sustainability and associate director for UOG Sea Grant; Madelaine Cosico, director of Sales & Marketing for the Hyatt Regency Guam; Maj. Gen. Roderick Leon Guerrero, adjutant general of the Guam National Guard; Roland Certeza, president and CEO of GTA. Front row, from left, Sonny Ada, president of Ada's Trust & Investment Inc.; Carlotta Leon Guerrero, executive director of the Ayuda Foundation; Annania Nauta, Miss Asia Pacific International Guam; Dr. Mary Okada, president and CEO of Guam Community College; Jackie Marati, senior vice president and chief communications officer for Bank of Guam; Jennifer Camacho, senior vice president of Cars Plus LLC; and Inna Wiese of RIM Architects LLC.





# Guam leaders converge for inaugural CIS board

Guam's Center for Island Sustainability approaches its 10th anniversary, CIS announces its launching of the inaugural Island Sustainability Community advisory board.

The board is comprised of local leaders and captains of industry and government. The ISCA board will set strategies to cultivate a sustainable future for the region.

"Each board member was selected for their contributions to the community," said Jackie Marati, chair of the ISCA board. "With their help, we hope that sustainable actions will be ingrained in our society in order to secure our future as islanders."

CIS was established in 2009 and has since become a focal institute in the region for adapting and modeling sustainable technologies to meet island needs in the broader areas of the environment, economy, society, and education.

"UOG has led the way in island sustainability for the past

the University of nine years," said former UOG president Robert Underwood. 'We look forward to the leadership of this board in bringing sustainable practices into our community."

> Underwood continues working with CIS following his retirement as UOG president last month.

Over the next year, CIS will prepare for its landmark 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Though the center is islandfocused, it is also acting globally as the newest member of the Global Consortium for Sustainability Outcomes. Through this consortium, UOG will join collaborators for 12 international universities and research institutions in accelerating solutions to sustainability challenges.

The first ISCA board meeting was held in July at UOG. Board members indicated that waste reduction, natural resource protection, and educational outreach will be the initial areas of focus for ISCA. The board will convene on a quarterly basis. (UOG)

# XO Market sued for breach

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

The owner of the building that XO Market occupies is suing the grocery store's owners for refusing to vacate the premises, nearly eight months after the termination of their lease.

D.S. Corp. and Eo Dae Sun have filed a civil case against Li Guo Wu and Long Feng Corp., which operates the XO Market, for stubbornly refusing to vacate the building and for failing to pay rent.

D.S Corp. wants XO Market removed from the building

According to the complaint, D.S. Corp. leased the commercial building space on Middle Road in 2010 to Long Feng Corp. so it could establish the XO Market.

The extended lease came to

an end back in Dec. 31, 2017, and Long Feng Corp reportedly refuses to move out nearly eight months later.

D.S. Corp has taken legal action before through the Holdover Tenancy Act, but Long Feng Corp. has yet to be removed and D.S. Corp. said it has already lost a new tenant as a result of Long Feng's "trespassing."

D.S. Corp. has filed the lawsuit to hold the Long Feng Corp. and Wu Guo accountable for the loss of possible revenue as a result of their contract breach and more.

D.S. Corp. is alleging breach of contract, trespassing, conversion, unjust enrichment, breach of the Holdover Tenancy Act, and Injunctive Relief.

The lawsuit was filed on Aug. 13, 2018 and D.S Corp. is demanding a trial by jury.

# Torres to USCIS: Prioritize healthcare, CUC workers

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has asked U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to reserve 260 CNMI-Only Transitional Worker slots for healthcare and utility workers.

In a letter to U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, who oversees USCIS, Torres urged the agency to prioritize these employees to ensure that operations at the Commonwealth Health Center and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. won't be disrupted.

Torres cited the new provision in the Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act of 2018 where Section 3(b) (3)(B) of PL 115-218 grants the CNMI governor the ability to provide recommendations to DHS in reserving a certain number of permits each year for workers under the public health or safety employment categories.

Section 3(b)(3)(B) states the governor can recommend to DHS to "reserve a number of permits each year for occupational categories necessary to maintain public health or safety in the Commonwealth.

"With the recent signing of

U.S. Public Law 115-218, we are able to supply our economy with the necessary resources to progress as a community and are now able to do so with greater tools and ability to participate in the management of our labor force and

in the direction of our economy," said Torres in his letter.

USCIS has already announced that they have started accepting CW-1 applications based on the newly available 8,001 numeri-

cal slots for fiscal year 2019. P.L. 115-218 increased the numerical limit to 13,000 from 4,999 in the previous law that was supposed to end on Dec. 31 this year had President Donald J. Trump not signed H.R. 5956 into law last month.

Torres

Torres also asked USCIS to set aside 60 slots for occupational categories related to workers providing public utilities services in the CNMI. These services include water/wastewater engineers, electrical engineers, mechanical engineers, and trades technicians.

Torres asked USCIS to reserve 200 CW-1 permit applications for occupational categories 29-0000 and 31-0000

U.S. Public Law 115-218, we are able to supply our economy with the necessary reomy with the necessary reomy vitable Law 115-218, we or for healthcare practitioners; technical, and healthcare support occupations.

Torres made both requests for fiscal year 2019 as it would ensure the daily operations of the Commonwealth's lone hospital and CUC, which pro-

vides utility services to all businesses and residents of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. "This request is crucial toward ensuring adequate staffing of the CNMI's healthcare system and public

utilities services."

"As you are aware, a large majority of nurse staff were denied renewal applications prior to the enactment of P.L. 115-218. The reservation of permits for these vital occupational categories will provide greater support for the maintenance of public health in the CNMI," added Torres.

Healthcare services in the CNMI could have encountered problems after no one among the 111 nurses and ancillary staff at CHC were selected in the lottery system used by USCIS to fill the supposedly 4,999 slots. CUC could have also faced a similar problem since they have specific labor demands in regards

to utilities maintenance.

"Similarly, the [CNMI's] public utilities system, maintained by CUC, has labor demands that exceed local capacity in specific engineering and trades occupations. Maintaining sustainability in labor access for the power, water, and wastewater functions of CUC is an absolute necessity if the safety of the public were to be protected," said Torres.

Torres said the governor's

ability to make recommendations is beneficial to the CNMI's labor issues. "Having the ability to recommend alterations to these reservations throughout the duration of the transition period would be beneficial toward the CNMI's goals of truly transitioning occupations toward U.S. citizens or alternative visa classifications when U.S. workers are not available."

He is also recommending

that permits should also be reserved for "critical occupations" and make it adaptable to the changing labor demands of both occupational categories.

"I am in the process of providing further recommendations for the development of the interim rule, but as petitions for [FY] 2019 are now being accepted, the reservation of these critical permits is of urgent significance tor our islands," added Torres.





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# Better street lights urged

By JON PEREZ jon\_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Rep. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang said the island's street lights needs to be improved, particularly in areas that are poorly lit like portions along Puerto Rico.

These were Guerrero's and Apatang's suggestion after an auto-pedestrian incident took place early Sunday morning in Puerto Rico—a dark area where the victim was left for

dead. The driver was later identified as Esekiel Smith, who was accompanied by his wife when he turned himself in at 6:50pm on Sunday to the Department of Public Safety.

Apatang said he plans to meet with Department of Public Works officials to talk about streetlights. "That's DPW's work. We need to look at putting additional lighting and highway safety [there]."

He added that it was disheartening news to learn of the incident. "It's unfortunate for this kind of incidents to happen. The boy got hit and later died. That's very sad."

Guerrero said he doesn't understand why the driver left behind the victim, who was pronounced dead at 4:01am at the Commonwealth Health Center. "For somebody to hit someone and not stop to assist, even though you are at fault or not... Again, you hit a human being."

"I don't understand why the driver did not stop to assist, that's very cold. ... The driver could have assisted the victim and brought him to the hospital [and] that could have saved his life.'

The Precinct 1 lawmaker said that poor lighting in the area could have been a factor in the incident. "One of the mitigating factors that I see in that area is poor lighting. As a government, we need to have a study done how to best light up Puerto Rico Road."

"Because that is not the only incident that has happened in the [area] during the wee hours of the morning and late at night. If we had adequately lit streets, we won't have any problems of people walking on the road being hit."

The car could also be darkly tinted. "Maybe the vehicle had dark tinting. It can impair your ability to drive even if you have 20/20 vision. The vehicles headlights won't give you

sufficient lighting to see your surroundings."

Guerrero said that government agencies like the DPW, the Marianas Visitors Authority, and the Saipan Mayor's Office should coordinate with each other on how to properly light that road to ensure the safety of everyone.

# **PSS**

From Page 1

file the case in the future.

Mocanu said that Torres, the Legislature, and the CNMI government have not yet filed any answer or filed any motion for summary judgment before the filing of the notice of the voluntary dismissal.

Mocanu did not explain the reason for the voluntary dismissal.

This comes less than two weeks after it filed the case.

In the lawsuit, PSS asked the court to declare that the

"general revenues of the Commonwealth" be defined as the total budgetary resources identified by the governor.

PSS asked the court to rule that PSS is entitled to an unfettered 25 percent of that amount, before earmarks or debt service payments.

PSS asked the court to declare that it is entitled to 25 percent of the "general revenues" of the Commonwealth and that must come from the total gross amount of budgetary resources of the Commonwealth and all other funds from budgetary sources before initial allocations are made.

## KILILI

From Page 1

If plans push through, the Air Force would improve Tinian's public infrastructures like roads, airport, seaport, and health clinic.

A record of decision was also issued by the Air Force almost two years ago after consultation with the CNMI government. The record of decision lists the actions the Air Force would take in reducing the impact of the planned divert airfield on Tinian.

Among the list of actions of the Air Force are noise mitigation, water quality, airspace and airfield conflicts, geology and soils, water resources, terrestrial biological resources, cultural resources, land use, hazardous materials and waste, infrastructure and utilities, socioeconomic and environmental justice, and human health and safety.

Sablan said that he inquired to confirm the commitment made by U.S officials—led by Department of Defense Deputy Assistant Secretary for Basing Allison Sands—where the CNMI government and Air Force had agreed on an airport layout plan for the divert airfield activities on Tinian.

The plan was reportedly been given to the Federal Aviation Administration where primary and secondary roads would be paved, the health clinic would be expanded, the dock improved, and a fuel storage facility would be funded.

The Air Force answered that they plan to invest over \$375 million on plans to enhance the Tinian airport and seaport, where they would build a taxiway, cargo pad, parking apron, bulk fuel storage with hydrant system, fuel pipeline,

and maintenance facility.

"This work is codified in the [ROD] signed by the Air Force and is reflected in the airport layout plan approved and released by [CPA]. The [DoD] is committed to a mutually beneficial partnership with CNMI and will be working with local authorities to ensure our presence does not negatively impact the community," said the Air Force's response.

Sablan said the response sent by Air Force states that there's no agreement yet. "The Air Force only says it will 'explore' how these infrastructure improvements can be provided. But the Air Force made no formal or enforceable commitment to provide these improvements."

"In fact, in the 2019 NDAA, Congress has specifically prohibited the [DoD] from making any investment in public infrastructure on Tinian or anywhere in the Marianas, until an Economic Adjustment Committee reports to us what civilian projects are needed to support proposed military activities.'

He added the report is due in May 2019 and only then would Congress decide whether it would fund the construction of civilian intrastruc tures on Tinian.

"Tinian has my commitment to work diligently in Congress to ensure that [it] receive[s] the benefit of public infrastructure, if needed, by the divert field or if the Commonwealth government agrees to any other buildup activities."

"But I do not want anyone to be misled into thinking the Air Force has already made a commitment to Tinian or has any authority to do so."

Japanese coffee firm said to be testing Rota coffee

The Ueshima Coffee Co. in Japan is reportedly testing Rota's coffee that is growing in the wild to determine bean quality, with a reported plan to invest in Rota coffee growers if the quality of the coffee bean is affirmed.

According to a news release from the Department of Lands and Natural Resources on Rota, members of the KFC Triathlon Club of Japan were first introduced to Rota's coffee arabica that was growing in the wild, which then triggered KFC's Rota Coffee Marathon. The group then presented the coffee to UCC, one of the world's largest coffee companies. Now KFC is back on Rota to gather coffee beans for UCC's investigatory and testing work to determine coffee bean quality.

"Once UCC determines the quality of organically grown Rota coffee, it plans to pour in direct investments into Rota coffee growers.

"These investments include resources such as tools, equipment, technical assistance, training and knowledge, including the marketing of 'Rota Island Mountain Coffee' in Japan and around the world," the news release stated.

"Ever heard of UCC Kona Coffee Estate and UCC Blue Mountain Coffee at Craighton Estate in Jamaica? These are some of UCC's investments besides its purchasing of coffee beans from other coffeegrowing countries.

"UCC is not just about coffee growing. It also believes

that preserving a rich natural environment is essential to producing good coffee, thereby taking active measures to make eco-friendly coffee," the statement adds.

What triggered Rota's KFC friends to report Rota coffee to UCC? A research into Rota coffee kicked off when KFC received old records of the Spanish colonial government in the Mariana Islands (1521-1898)documenting coffee growing activity, which DLNR received out of the U.S. Library of Congress through Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. sablan's office, and his staff, Tina Sablan, and Washington, D.C. staff.

KFC and support staff then dug into old Japanese archives about coffee during the Japanese colonial era. What they found astonished them. According to KFC, their findings and document translations found that both the Spaniards and Japanese reported that coffee grown in the highlands of Rota were found to be the best in the Marianas and of high quality.

Rota Island awaits UCC's coffee bean test results while the Rota Island Specialty Crop Association are taking steps to propagate Rota arabica coffee. RISCA and the Rota Mayor's Office are calling on the Rota community to help establish the Rota Island Mountain Coffee brand.

To read more of KFC Triathlon Club's story on Rota coffee, visit their website at kfctriathlon.com. (PR)

Responsibility.

In favoring Defense and the Navy, Manglona said these departments took a hard look at the specific needs of relocating Marines from Okinawa.

Manglona said both Defense and the Navy reasonably concluded that the more advanced training ranges to be used by all U.S. forces and allied forces stationed in the Pacific Command Area of Responsibility should be evaluated in a separate EIS.

the effects of the range and training areas proposed in the CJMT draft EIS could create cumulative impacts that must be addressed in conjunction with the environmental effects of the relocation action.

she finds that Defense and the Navy have committed to addressing these impacts during the ongoing CJMT EIS process, and they "are ordered to do so."

# APA From Page 1

the training and range areas to those that meet the needs of the Marines being relocated to Guam "was not arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion."

"The decision was rationally and reasonably based on a consideration of the factors relevant to complying with the diplomatic agreement with Japan while meeting the immediate training needs of the Marines," said Manglona in a 41-page decision.

The judge further finds that the actions decided on in the relocation's final environmental impact statement and supplemental environmental impact statement, and the range and training areas proposed in the CNMI Joint Military Training Environmental Impact Statement Draft EIS are not connected actions.

The Tinian Women Association, Guardians of Gani, Pagan Watch, and the Center for Biological Diversity are suing the Navy and the Defense and their top officials for alleged violation of NEPA APA over their decision to relocate 5,000

U.S. Marines from Okinawa to Guam and to conduct livetraining on Tinian and Pagan.

The lawsuit involves a procedural challenge to the Defense and the Navy's decisions to relocate thousands of Marines from Okinawa to Guam and to build training and base facilities on Guam and Tinian that are necessary to meet their needs

Both parties then filed a motion for summary judgment.

The four environmental groups sought a ruling that these final decisions violated the NEPA.

NEPA requires agencies to assess the environmental consequences of all proposed major federal actions in environmental impact statements so that the public understands what factors agencies have considered, and so that agencies consider the effects of their actions before choosing whether or not to take them.

Defense and the Navy have completed a final EIS and supplemental EIS that analyze the effects of the relocation of Marines to Guam and related rebasing and training activities in Guam and on Tinian.

The four environment groups claim that these docu-

ments are deficient because they fail to include an analysis of the environmental impacts that will stem from range and training areas on Tinian and Pagan, as separately proposed by Defense and the Navy.

Specifically, the environment groups claim that the proposed range and training areas on Tinian and Pagan and the final decisions about the relocation and training of Marines in Guam and on Tinian are "connected actions" that should have been assessed in a single EIS.

The groups also allege that the proposed range and training areas on Tinian and Pagan will add to the environmental effects resulting from the relocation of Marines to Guam. and therefore the additional effects—"cumulative pacts"-should have been addressed in the EIS relating to the relocation efforts.

Defense and the Navv contend that the decision to limit the scope of the relocation EIS to some parts of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force training was a rational choice given that the U.S. committed to removing a significant number of Marines from Okinawa as soon as possible.

Defense and the Navy argue that the CJMT proposals for Tinian and Pagan were developed to accommodate the training needs of all of the U.S. and allied forces stationed in or transiting through the Pacific Command Area of

Manglona also finds that

However, the judge said,

# American Sinopan eyes \$31M to build 12 villas, clubhouse

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

American Sinopan LLC wants to pour in \$31 million more in investments on Saipan. This time, the company wants to build 12 modern-style villas and one clubhouse on Capital Hill.

American Sinopan LLC chief executive officer Ken Lin said in an interview yesterday that the project, to be called Capitol Hill Residences, would be located across the Capitol Hill Resort, which is the renovated former Magellan Hotel.

Lin said the \$31-million project is separate from the \$350,000 the company is spending to renovate the former Magellan Hotel.

He said the renovated Magellan Hotel was then called Heaven II Hotel, but now it is called Capitol Hill Resort.

He said the Capitol Hill Residences will be for their high-end customers. Amenities would include KTV rooms and infinity pools.

Lin said the clubhouse will serve both the Capitol Hill Resort and the Capitol Hill Residences.

He said Capitol Hill Resort is ready for opening, but is not complete yet.

American Sinopan has already submitted a proposal hai, China.

with the CNMI Zoning Board to amend its conditional use permit to include the construction of the 12 residential villas and a clubhouse.

The Zoning Board will conduct a public hearing on American Sinopan's proposal today at 5pm, Thursday, at the Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Lin said three structures located on one piece of land, which is undeveloped, would be demolished

Lin said Capital Hill Resort, which is located on a portion of another piece of land, will not be disturbed.

He said the site to be developed is located west of Route 316, also known as Chalan Savannah.

Last June, American Sinopan LLC held a small groundbreaking for the construction of its major project on Saipan, the Saipan Garden Resort, in Tanapag.

Saipan Garden Resort will have 1,184 guestrooms, 170 apartments, and 108 staff apartments. The structure will be compound-like, with 14 six-story buildings, three swimming pools, and six restaurants.

American Sinopan owns a golf course and hotels in China. It's mother company, SinoPan, is based in Shang-



# CCDF secures its largest federal grant to date

By ERWIN ENCINARES

The Department of Commu-

nity and Cultural Affairs Child Care and Development Fund confirmed Monday that they have effectively doubled their budget through a federal grant.

CCDF, under the DCCA, has confirmed during a State and Territorial Meeting last week that it would be receiving an additional \$2.1 million in fiscal year 2018, effectively doubling its budget to \$4.2 million—the largest federal assistance it has received to date.

"The funding will be used primarily to address child care subsidies. These are funds provided to families who are working or attending school on a full-time basis. The CCDF has had to maintain a wait list of around 130 families. This new funding will allow for the provision of assistance to all of the families currently on the wait list," a DCCA statement noted.

The funding would allow the program to cover costs of training and coaching for child care providers, to continue the

development of high quality care for children, and to implement the Quality Rating and Improvement System, which is a systematic approach to assessing and improving the quality of care in early and school age care, and communicating this to consumers of child care.

"The CCDF has also worked with child care providers and grantor staff to develop plans for the implementation of the program to assist in fostering new resident employment in child care programs through training, mentor periods, and incentives. The program is designed to see resident U.S. citizens and permanent residents brought into the child care workforce and is made possible through the recent allocation of local supplementary funding," the DCCA statement noted.

According to the statement, the additional federal and local funds represent an "improved picture" of the future of child care provision and access to these services by families.

For more information on CCDF services, call 664-2547.



# CEC: No drastic spike in number of Tinian voters

For this Nov. 6 general election, there has been no drastic increase in the number of registered voters on Tinian, according to Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Julita Villagomez.

As of yesterday, Tinian has 1.727 registered voters, which is an increase of just 20 to 30 voters from 2016, the last election, Villagomez said.

She said they don't have the data as to how many of those

1,727 registered voters are currently not on Tinian.

As of yesterday, Rota has 1,957 voters, while Saipan and the Northern Islands have a combined total of 14,545.

This brings the total num-

ber of registered voters in the CNMI to 18,229—an alltime high.

In a recent letter to the editor, CNMI historian and former Board of Education member Don Farrell had expressed doubt about CEC's count of about 1,707 registered Tinian

voters at that time.

Farrell said the number is too high; he asked how many are from off-island. He also asked when the final registration will be completed and how will citizens challenge the votes of people who are not eligible.

On the question about challenging the votes, Villagomez said that people can bring the matter before the CEC, which will then make a determination. If they are not satisfied with the CEC's ruling, they can bring their protest to the Superior Court. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Probable cause found vs rape suspects

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The CNMI Superior Court found probable cause yesterday to warrant the filing of charges against the two remaining suspects in the rape case that involved four men.

During a preliminary hearing for 38-year-old Christopher Saimon and 19-year-old Richmond Keybond, who were allegedly involved in raping an intoxicated woman, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho found

probable cause to believe that both Saimon and Keybond committed sexual assault in the second degree.

Keybond was represented by his counsel, Cong Nie, while Saimon was represented by his council, Oliver Manglona.

Both Keybond and Saimon are set to be arraigned on Aug. 27.

Another suspect in the alleged rape, Romeo Aquino Saimon, waived his right to a preliminary hearing. He is represented by counsel Charles McDonald,

Romeo Saimon is the father of Keybond.

Probable cause for sexual assault in the first degree and

assault (domestic violence) has already been found in the case of Joseph Saimon, the fourth suspect in the alleged rape and the victim's ex-boyfriend, back in July.

Romeo, Christopher, and Joseph Saimon are brothers.

Assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio appeared on behalf of the government.

The preliminary hearing started last Friday and ended yesterday.

Romeo Saimon, Keybond, and Christopher Saimon allegedly raped the drunk woman, who also complained that her former boyfriend, Joseph Saimon, kidnapped and raped her last June 25 or a day after the incident on Saipan.

# **NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING**

American Sinopan, LLC dba Capitol Hill Residence

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. American Sinopan, LLC dba Capitol Hill Residence is proposing to amend its Conditional Use Permit No. 2017- 2409 (Heaven II Resort) to include the construction of 12 residential villas and a clubhouse as part of their Phase II Heaven II project. This use is classified as "Planned Development/Hotel" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on TR22667-2-R1, TR22667-5, and TR22667-R5 in Capitol Hill. This area is zoned as Rural. area is zoned as Rural.

> Thursday, August 23, 2018 Date: Time:

5:00 pm Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Place: Multipurpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office on or before 4.30 pm, August 22, 2018. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

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**Eunice SPN Corporation** 

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Place: Multipurpose Center, Susupe

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/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

#### **OPEN HOUSE**

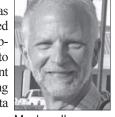
**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO** 

Parents, together with their children, attend the Golden Harvest International School open house for school year 2018-2019 just before the start of classes.

# CUC eliminator system to lessen oily wastes at Rota power plant

REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has selected an advanced oil filtration equipment that is meant to minimize the amount of oily wastes being generated at the Rota power plant.



Mechem II

In a declaration submitted in court, environmental engineer F. Russell Mechem II of the U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency disclosed that the vendor for >>> CUC, EPA the advanced oil finalizing filtration equipprocess ment—or eliminator system—is to buy just about to reincinerator lease the equipment. It will then units for be brought to Rota oily wastes for installation and staff training.

Mechem, EPA's designated technical representative and project coordinator for stipulated order number 2, made the declaration that was filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI last week in support of the U.S. government's August 2018 status report on CUC projects.

SO2 focuses on oil issues and also applies to oil spills and the remediation of the contaminated power plants.

Mechem also disclosed that a plan for CUC to buy two incinerator units for power plants 1 and 2 in Lower Base has not been finalized nor submitted to the federal court. The machines will be used to dispose of CUC's oil

wastes.

Once approved by the court, Mechem said, the incinerator units would be located at CUC's power plants 1 and 2 and will also handle Rota oil wastes.

In a separate report filed in court, Bradley R. O'Brien, senior lawyer of the Department of Justice Environmental Enforcement

> Section, said the incinerators will handle used nonhazardous oil waste streams and oily solid waste streams from power plants 1 and 2 in Lower Base and the Rota power plant.

> O'Brien said that procuring and

installing the incinerators is a significant potential waste management project.

Mechem said the incinerators would be bought, following a selection process via the engineering evaluation and feasibility study, which occurs after and issuance of a Bureau of Environmental Coastal Quality permit to CUC.

CUC intends to initiate the BECQ permitting process this

Mechem and O'Brien said the incinerator units would not be purchased until the BECQ permit is issued.

# PSS sets Middle School Conference

The Public School System will host a Middle School Conference in mid-September.

The conference would be held from Sept. 12 through Sept. 13 at the Kanoa Resort in Susupe, from 9am through 1:30pm and 8:30am through 2pm.

"The overall goal of the conference is focused on promoting resiliency within our youth. We know that children are more likely to be resilient when they are supported on all fronts—at home, at school and within the community—and so an extension of that goal is to arm our parents with the means to do so," a PSS flyer noted.

With the theme "Building a Stronger We: Breaking the Stigma," the conference aims to create a "safe space" to address difficult-to-open conversations such as sexual health, mental health, and suicide prevention.

Students and parents of students enrolled in grades 6 through 8 are invited to attend the conference, which is split into two days-Sept.12, for the student conference and Sept. 13 for the parent conference.

There will be breakout session hosted by the Division of Public Health Services under the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.; Systems of Care; the Garrett Lee Smith Suicide Prevention Office, along with other community organizations and businesses that offer extracurricular activities for families

Morning refreshments and lunch would be provided during both sessions.

For more information contact your child's school administrative office or Jocelyn Itibus at 322-6760 or email her at jocelyn.itibus@cnmipss. org. (Erwin Encinares)









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# ging Office didn't receive shelter requests

erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com

The CNMI Office of Aging in Garapan received no shelter requests as Typhoon Cimaron pelted the Marianas

with heavy rain from Monday to Tuesday.

Office of Aging director Walter Manglona told Saipan *Tribune* yesterday that his office did not receive any shelter requests. Just the same,

the office was on standby just in case it was needed as a shelter, he added.

"The building is to be utilized as a shelter and our department works closely with the Office of Homeland Security," Manglona told Saipan Tribune. "We provide assistance by any means in order to get the place ready for a possible shelter for people that are in need of assistance or housing during the storm."

According to Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Robert Hunter, who is currently off-island, the Aging Office reportedly has a capacity to accommodate 40 people.

The dining hall of the Aging Office, according to Manglona, was cleared for possible evacuees but it remained unused at the height of the heavy rain. "...[Nobody] showed up [for shelter]," Manglona said.

The Public School System and the Aging Office collectively opened five shelters throughout Saipan: the Office of Aging, Kagman High School, Koblerville Elementary School, Tanapag Middle School, and Tinian Elementary School.

According to a previous statement from Homeland Security, there were only two shelterees at Kagman High School, six at Koblerville Elementary School, 10 at Tanapag Middle School, and none at Tinian Elementary School as of 8:30pm Monday. PSS was unable to verify with Saipan Tribune the total count of shelterees from Monday through Tuesday.



HAGÅTÑA, Guam-Guam's Antonio B. Won International Airport has been awarded a new \$15,967,572 federal grant by the Federal Aviation Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

This more than \$15.9 million federal funding award will allow the Antonio B. Won Pat International Airport Authority to construct a new aircraft rescue and firefighting building, to improve safety and rescue capabilities at the airport.

This multimillion dollar federal award is on top of \$3.5 million awarded to Airport Authority in September 2017 and another \$5 million federal grant in September 2016, which funded the building project's design phase.

Guam's only civilian airport serves some 3.6 million travelers each year, according to the most recent figures.

Groundbreaking for the building construction is expected to begin later this fall.

Each year, Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU)

# >> Funding for construction of new aircraft rescue and firefighting building

works in the U.S. Congress to secure millions in federal funding to support civilian infrastructure projects on Guam, like capital improvement projects at the Antonio B. Won Pat International Airport.

"I am thrilled to see more than \$15.9 million in new

federal funding come to the Guam International Airport for construction of the new aircraft rescue and firefighting building. This much-needed federal funding supports the capital improvement projects underway at our airport to better serve Guam residents and visitors alike and keep us all safe," said Bordallo. "I congratulate executive manager Chuck Ada and the entire GIAA leadership team on this multi-million federal award and their ongoing work to make Guam International a word-class airport and travel destination." (PR)

# Invitation to join community choir

The Friends of the Arts is inviting the public to join the Saipan Community Choir. No audition is required. Adults and students are welcome.

The choir will perform at an FOA holiday concert in December and other events before and after.

The choir will start meeting on Aug. 23 at 6:30pm and will practice every Thursday from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

The choir will be directed by Katie Hoyt, FOA board secretary, who received her bachelor's in Music from Dixie State University where she studied voice, sang in and accompanied the choirs, and was a rehearsal pianist for the school's performance of The Gondoliers by Gilbert and Sullivan. Hoyt was the musical director for the recent FOA production of Into the Woods. (PR)



#### FREE HAIRCUT

Children receive free haircut services by professional barbers through the Lady Diann Torres Foundation's Back to School Cuts project held at the Kagman Community Center, just before the start of

# Strong Pacific quake hits near Vanuatu but no tsunami threat

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—A strong earthquake has struck in the South Pacific near the archipelago nation of Vanuatu, but authorities say there is no threat of a destructive tsunami.

The magnitude 6.7 quake hit Wednesday about 78 kilometers (48 miles) east of the

town of Lakatoro, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The quake was about 187 kilometers (116 miles) from the capital Port Vila.

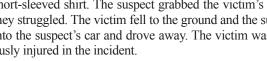
There were no immediate reports of damage on Vanuatu, which is home to about 280,000 people.

The Pacific Tsunami Warn-

ing Center says there was no large tsunami expected and no threat to Hawaii. New Zealand authorities say there was no tsunami threat there.

Vanuatu sits on the Pacific's "Ring of Fire," the arc of seismic faults around the Pacific Ocean where earthquakes and volcanoes are common.

approached her. He was described as male, dark skinned, about 5'9" tall, heavily built, in his 30s, and wearing a dark-colored short-sleeved shirt. The suspect grabbed the victim's purse and they struggled. The victim fell to the ground and the suspect ran into the suspect's car and drove away. The victim was not seriously injured in the incident.



# **AUGUST 23, 2016**

#### Poll: Over 80 pct of Americans back Kilili's shark fin trade ban

A new national poll shows that 81 percent of Americans support Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's (Ind-MP) bill to ban the trade of shark fins in the United States, he said. The national poll, conducted by the non-partisan polling company iCitizen, surveyed 1,000 registered American voters online from July 12-15 and found broad bipartisan support for the legislation, according to the conservation group, Oceana, which released the poll on Sablan's "Shark Fin Trade Elimination Act" last week. "An even greater number, 89 percent, agree that shark finning is a cruel and wasteful practice," Sablan said in his newsletter Saturday. "Our local government, along with two other insular areas and 11 states, has already passed shark fin legislation."

#### Hocog's son seeks police assistance against ex-Rota cop

Dennis Atalig Taisacan, a former Rota police officer who was arrested last July for domestic violence, was arrested again last Wednesday for allegedly violating a court order of protection and for breaking several times into an apartment unit on Saipan occupied by a former police officer, whom he accused of having an affair with his wife. The 50-year-old Taisacan also allegedly complained of headache and injury as he refused to be taken to Superior Court for bail hearing on Friday morning. The hearing was continued Friday at 1:30pm.

#### **AUGUST 23, 2011**

# Beached whale at Micro Beach put down

A young whale found beached on the shore of Micro Beach in Garapan was put down at past 3pm yesterday, a few hours after being found. Fisheries biologist Mike Tenorio of the Division of Fish and Wildlife said the decision to euthanize the whale, which measured approximately 13 1/2 feet long and weighed about 600 to 650 lbs, was based on the progression of the whale since 8am yesterday when they received a call about the stranded marine mammal. "What happened was that we came out with our vessels and met up with some of our federal counterparts in trying to discuss how to deal with the situation," he said.

#### **CUC** to lose its executive director

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will soon need a new executive director after Abe Utu Malae confirmed yesterday that he will be leaving his post to run for governor in American Samoa next year. Malae told Saipan Tribune yesterday that he officially announced his decision to join American Samoa's gubernatorial race during a teleconference with supporters last week. American Samoa's gubernatorial race is slated for November 2012. Malae pointed out, though, that there is still a long way to go before the election. "I am not worried about it right now...I am still concentrating on CUC," he said, adding that he is aggressively working to complete all that needs to be done for the utilities firm.

# A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

# **AUGUST 23, 2017**

#### **Quarantine intercepts prohibited items**

In a recent inspection of cargo at the Port of Saipan, CNMI quarantine officers intercepted undeclared and prohibited items imported by P&A Corp. During the initial hold of cargo to search for imported monosodium glutamate seasoning, inspectors found several undeclared items consisting of syringes with medicinal fluids used on pigs and cows. The inspectors noted that the inspection also uncovered soil on the cabin of the commercial truck used to carry the undeclared items, which is a prohibited movement from foreign countries into U.S. territory.

#### **Robbery on Navy Hill**

Crime Stoppers is seeking the public's help for a robbery incident that occurred on Navy Hill. Early Tuesday morning, Aug. 22, 2017, at about 1:57am, police met with the victim, a 34-year-old Asian female, and learned that she was alone driving up Navy Hill from the Chalan Arnold Pale traffic light intersection when she first noticed the suspect car, described only as dark colored, following her. The car followed her up Navy Hill to the parking lot of her apartment on Navy Hill. The victim parked her car in the apartment parking lot and witnessed the suspect's car park nearby. The victim had just gotten off her car when the suspect

# Children's science program back for 2nd year at UOG

The GENE-ius science program is back for its second year at the University of Guam College of Natural & Applied Sciences.

The seven-week Guam GENE-ius day program for fourth to sixth graders will take place during two identical sessions—10am to noon and 2pm to 4pm—on Saturdays from Sept. 15 to Oct. 27.

Classes will be held in and around the Agriculture & Life Sciences building on the UOG campus.

"This program was a huge success when we launched it in Guam last year," said Kamille Wang, program manager for Guam GENE-ius. "The students got to learn above and beyond what they learn in the classroom by being able to have fun with science and being hands-on with the lab equipment. Now that the program has a strong reputation, we're hoping for an even larger turnout this year."

The curriculum allows children to explore the world of science through interactive and thought-provoking activities and experiments in a university setting. It aims to stimulate curiosity, encourage young students to explore and build a passion for the field of science, and foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Over the series of classes, the program will cover a range of science disciplines, including biology, space, and earth



science. The lessons will be taught by trained instructors who are UOG alumni with degrees in biology

started in 2008 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and has since expanded there due to its success.

"The idea is in order for the

Guam GENE-ius is an off-

shoot of the program that was

U.S. and the world to be better prepared for what's coming up on our planet, you need to have scientists," said James Hollyer, former UOG Associate Director for Extension and Outreach. "We need to inspire Fourth through sixth grade students in last year's Guam GENE-ius science program pose for a class photo. The program is returning this September following the success of its launch last year.

younger children to be scientists when they become adults — or, at the very least, to learn how to think logically and critically.'

Hollyer originally brought the program to Guam with the help of Dr. Ania Wieczorek, director of the Hawaii GENEius Day Program.

The cost for the seven-week program is \$100. Applications with payment are due Tuesday, Sept. 11. To register, contact Wang at 787-8159 or guamgeneius@triton.uog.edu. (PR)

# UOG nursing program secures 8 more years of accreditation

The nursing program at the University of Guam has been granted another eight years of accreditation following its review by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

UOG's School of Nursing & Health Sciences received the notification letter on Aug. 8, which cited the program's partnerships with community healthcare organizations as one of its biggest strengths.

"This demonstrates the quality of education we have at UOG," said Margaret Hattori-Uchima, dean of the School of Nursing & Health Science. "ACEN requires a high standard for education, and through the accreditation process, we have been able to develop and maintain a quality nursing education program."

The program has been accredited since 1996.

The school has longstanding partnerships with all three of the island's hospitals, several other major healthcare providers, and several government of Guam agencies through which the nursing students do their clinicals.

"We cannot provide a comprehensive and holistic nursing education program without these partners," Hattori-Uchima said. "Clinical practice is vital to a competent nurse, and these partners provide that experience."

The partnership is mutually beneficial for the healthcare facilities as well.

"Hospital leaders have a vested interest in narrowing the educational practice gap, and academic leaders want their graduates to be the employee of choice," said Zennia Pecina, nursing director at the Guam Memorial Hospital. "Our longtime partnership with UOG has been successful in producing high-caliber graduate nurses."

In the past three years, UOG's partnerships have grown to include Guam Regional Medical City, the Latte Stone Nurses Association, and the University of Santo Tomas Alumni Association of Guam. The latter two provide scholarships to the students.

The accreditation letter also cited "extraordinary" financial support for the program. Hattori-Uchima said the program receives strong fiscal support from the UOG administration, federal grants, and the community, including an annual contribution from TakeCare Insurance Co., tuition assistance and stipends from the UOG Endowment Foundation and UOG Financial Aid Office, and financial support from private entities.

"The faculty of the School of Nursing & Health Sciences has done an incredible job connecting UOG's nursing students with real-world experiences and seeking out additional resources for their success," said UOG president Thomas W. Krise. "This accreditation gives national recognition for the commitment to our students and sets the standard for the future of the program. UOG's superb nursing graduates are key to the health outcomes of Guam and the region."

The last two graduating classes of UOG's nursing program passed the standardized nursing licensure exam, the National Council Licensure Examination with a 100 percent first-time pass rate, surpassing the national average of 90 percent.

UOG has conferred an average of 25 bachelor's degrees every year since its last accreditation in 2010, making it one of the University's largest academic programs by volume of graduates. (UOG)

AMENDED

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, August 23, 2018

5:00 PM, Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp

#### A. Preliminary Matters

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of 06/04/2018 meeting minutes
- Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

#### B. Public Hearings:

- 1. Conditional Use Application #2018-1979: Ya Myoung Corporation is proposing to relocate and occupy Room No. 1-1 on the ground floor of an existing building to manufacture and process Noni juice. This use is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 1826-2 in Chalan LauLau. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.
- 2. Conditional Use Application #2018-1998: RJCL Corporation dba RNV Construction is proposing to renovate and occupy three (3) existing one-storey structures with a total of 25 beds for staff housing. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. EA 109 NEW-1 in Chalan Kiya. This area is zoned as Village Residential.
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- **5. Conditional Use Application #2018-2711:** UMDA Wholesale/Retail Inc. dba Island Apparel is proposing to relocate its business from Puerto Rico to Koblerville and occupy an existing one-storey building for manufacturing and processing of apparels. This project is classified as
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## Communication

#### **Old Business:**

1. Update on proposed amendments to the Zoning Law

- 1. Review/Update on Sin Ho Nam Litigation
- 2. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)

#### Executive (Closed) Session

- Miscellaneous . Other Matters
- b. Announcements
- c. Next Meeting

#### Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman



Faculty, staff, and students of the University of Guam School of Nursing & Health Sciences celebrate the nursing program's reaccreditation. Faculty and staff pictured are, front center, from left, associate professor Ana Joy Mendez; (behind Mendez) nursing instructor James Finch; (holding "G") Margaret Hattori-Uchima, dean of the School of Nursing & Health Sciences; associate professor Kathryn Wood; nursing instructor Jennifer J. Turner; nursing instructor Rosielyn B. Babauta; nursing instructor Veronica Alave; (behind Alave) graduate teaching assistant Aubrianna Perez; administrative assistant Jocelyn Aguon; program coordinator Jonathan Nguyen; and assistant professor Annamma Varghese.

10 THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Opinion**



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MEMBER

**AP** The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

# **EDITORIAL**

# What a record-long bull market means for Americans

emember back to 2009, the depths of the Great Recession, when unemployment was above 9 percent and the American auto industry was in danger of collapse? Scary times. But you didn't lose faith in the American economy, did you? At least we hope you didn't empty your 401(k) plan and liquidate any stock you owned. Because long-term savers and investors have a milestone to celebrate.

On Wednesday the stock market is poised to break a record: the longest bull market rally in U.S. trading history. It's been more than nine years and five months since the dark days of March 2009, when the S&P 500 Index hit bottom and began to climb. It's still climbing. Were you smart or lucky enough to go for the ride? We hope so. Since March 9, 2009, the S&P index is up about 320 percent. We also hope this rally continues, and becomes an even tougher record to break.

While technical definitions of a bull market vary, and this year's market has been bumpy, the big picture outlook for the economy is bright. That's why Wall Street keeps betting on stocks. Unemployment is 3.9 percent. GDP growth hit 4.1 last quarter. Employers are investing in their businesses and consumers are spending. Happy days!

If one corporation is a proxy for the financial state of mind of the typical American, it might be Walmart. This recent comment from Walmart CEO Doug McMillon caught our attention because it was so optimistic: "Customers tell us that they feel better about the current health of the U.S. economy as well as their personal finances," he said. "They're more confident about their employment opportunities."

There are plenty of reasons for the trifecta of strong economic growth, lots of hiring and a bull market for stocks. Certainly, Republican-led tax reform is helping. A major purpose was to reduce the tax burden on American corporations to bring tax rates more in line with foreign-based competitors. Another goal was to encourage more business investment. But that's not all: The underlying state of U.S. businesses is healthy and profits are up. Some companies are raising prices on goods, which isn't necessarily a bad thing. It's part of being in a robust cycle. In the 12 months ending in June, U.S. workers saw their biggest wage growth since 2008, although we'd like to see incomes pop some more. Inflation remains in check.

We've seen some grumbling that part of Wall Street's lift is due to corporations using their tax windfalls for the buyback of stocks, which boosts the value of outstanding shares. As if share repurchasing were a form of cheating. It's not. Investors who gain proceeds from buybacks typically reinvest the money in other stocks. That is, companies with sufficient cash buy back their shares from shareholders, and that money gets reinvested in companies that

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# Giuliani says 'Truth isn't truth,' proving that I must have six-pack abs

isn't truth: On a luxurious white-sand beach in Bali rubbing suntan lotion on my six-pack abs, flanked by my four Pulitzer Prize statues and the mobile Dairy Queen that accompanies me everywhere.

It's the truth.

Or is it?

All I know is that on Sunday, Aug. 19, 2018, I was freed from the bonds of reality by America's greatest lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, who, when confronted with the words "Truth is truth," responded: "No, it isn't truth. Truth isn't truth."

Poof! Just like that, thanks to the former mayor of New York City, nothing matters anymore.

Chuck Todd of NBC's "Meet the Press" was asking Giuliani about his reluctance to let his client, President Donald Trump, sit down for an interview with Special Counsel Robert Mueller.

The exchange went something like this:

Todd: "Truth is truth. I don't mean to go like ...' Giuliani: "No it isn't truth. Truth isn't truth."

Todd: "Truth isn't truth? Mr. Mayor, do you realize ..."

Giuliani: "Ham isn't ham. Trees have arms and leaves are their fingers. Eggplant. I am the Chinchilla King. Nothing is real. There are only shadows. Howdy. Howdy. Flurrzanza-BAM!"

That last quote might not be true, but who's to say? Truth isn't truth. I'm a handsome turnip. Prove me wrong.

And don't be frightened. This is a good development.

Giuliani, who has a thick and lustrous head of hair, is not the crazy-eyed, babbling wiseman we asked for, but he may be the crazy-eyed, babbling wiseman we need.

Just a few hours after that truth-eviscerating revelation, conservative political commentator Tomi Lahren—known for once posting a pro-gun photo of herself with a pistol in her yoga pants—tweeted: "Truth is the new hate speech."

Yikes. Now I understand why Giuliani got rid of truth. That stuff sounds dangerous.

And if we're all being honest—which I have no way to gauge because truth isn't truth—truth has always been, at best, wildly inconvenient

Truth led me to do dumb things, like not eat 14 Hostess Cup-Cakes simply because a so-called "scale" and my alleged "pants" tricked me into believing I needed to lose weight.

Never again.

Truth has hampered my ability to leap into the air and fly. It caused "Star Wars" episodes I, II and III to be terrible films.

It made me believe, however briefly, that Democratic Rep. Ted Lieu of California was right Sunday when he described Giuliani's "truth isn't truth" comment as "another step towards authoritarianism."

Nice try, Rep. Lieu. Your truth isn't truth.

And even if Lieu's comment was the truth, the gospel of

## By REX HUPPKE

Chicago Tribune

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Tomi Lahren clearly states that Lieu's truth, if true, would be hate speech. You don't want to be guilty of hate speech, do you, congressman?

I didn't think so. POOF! You no longer exist.

Wow. That was easy

Giuliani tried to clarify his "truth isn't truth" comment Monday morning, tweeting: "My statement was not meant as a pontification on moral theology but one referring to the situation where two people make precisely contradictory statements, the classic 'he said, she said' puzzle. Sometimes further inquiry can reveal the truth other times it doesn't."

Nice try, Mr. Mayor. Your previous "truth isn't truth" comment invalidates any further clarification—ipso facto, your Monday morning tweet can't be the truth because truth isn't truth.

So let's sit back and imagine the possibilities that now stretch out before us.

The truth of war? What is it good for? Absolutely nothing. So it no longer exists.

Your NFL team hasn't made the Super Bowl in a decade? That fact no longer exists and the Chicago Bears, or any team of your choosing, won every Super Bowl for the past 30 years. Or for however many years you decide, it matters not.

There are now narwhals in Lake Michigan, as far as I'm concerned.

And each of you owes me \$20; please pay up. (I realize you will now try to skip out on your debt by claiming that truth isn't truth, and therefore you owe me nothing, so I hereby declare that using "truth isn't truth" to avoid paying a handsome turnip the \$20 you owe him is hate speech.)

It would almost seem that in a world where truth isn't truth, a person could get away with just about anything. I can't imagine why the lawyer of an innocent man would want to suggest such a thing

Of course, if truth isn't truth, there would be no proof that Giuliani ever made such a suggestion.

And I suppose that would vaporize the whole point of this column, a column I would swear is 100 percent true were it not for the fact that truth is hate speech.

Make sense?

Of course it does. Or my name isn't Channing Tatum.

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# When the call to evacuate comes, what will you take?

Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

hose of us who live in canyons of kindling are jumpy these days. California is in flames, the stories are ghastly, the pictures astonishing and terrifying. Cooking smells are alarming, as are helicopters and sirens. Nights are the worst. What if we're sleeping when the fire starts? What if my husband's snoring and the fan on high drown out the warnings and alarms? What if there are no warnings and alarms?

The first time we evacuated, in 2009, our canyon walls were popping and cracking like a campfire. I don't know why I was surprised that big fires sounded like big little fires. I remember standing in my living room, in a numb emergency-calm-trancepanic, looking at my everything. I knew I was supposed to take the computer and insurance documents and deeds and maybe birth certificates and what else? Passports? All that paperwork was theoretically grabbable, in a readily accessible envelope marked URGENT & ESSENTIAL GROWN-UP STUFF!

But what about the paintings by my friends and dead relatives? The kids' first drawings and their stories? The Mother's Day cards they gave me? The soup tureen I inherited from my grandma? My favorite coffee cup?

I called my kids and asked what three of their possessions they'd most like to see again: Musical instruments, and Diana, the sacred cow my daughter still sleeps with every night. I didn't need to be told about Diana. She'd hopped into the car with my first armload of photo albums. I had also mashed the guinea pig and the bunny into one small cage and put the turtle in a pot for easy transport. Then our dog, Sweetie, and I drove to meet the

rest of the family at a friend's house.

Sleeping there that night, all of us and our menagerie, I wondered what we do if all was lost in a roar and a flash. How long could we couch surf? What would we miss the most? The only upside—all that simplifying and tidying and downsizing I was supposed to be doing would have been handled. But what if the one or two artifacts left in the char were precisely the things I had meant to throw out?

We were lucky: We returned to an unharmed home, put the photo albums back on the shelf, released the beasts, replaced the essential grown-up stuff, and felt a little silly for having been so scared.

Since then we've had the occasional quickly extinguished brush fire or car fire in our canyon. We've smelled the smoke stench and cleaned up the ash-fall from infernos in neighboring foothills. One fire blocked our canyon exit and for several hours the only way out was on foot, but it was contained before we had to load our pets into our pockets and the essential envelope into a backpack.

A recent house guest from Minnesota flicked his cigarette butt to the ground and was surprised when I freaked out. Folks from rainy, snowy, wet places don't know-yet-from red flag warnings. They think fires are hard to light. A one-match campfire is an accomplishment where they live. Not so for those of us who've gathered in a hospital parking lot to witness the spectacular destruction of acres of neighboring hillsides.

It will happen again, and what will I take? When I was a kid, I would have saved my Barbie. A bit older, my Carole King, James Taylor, Laura Nyro, Marvin Gaye and Joan Baez albums. Later still, my journals, notebooks and love letters. In '09, I reBy AMY KOSS Los Angeles Times

Amy Koss writes often for Opinion.



call surveying my living room for what I feared was the last time and deciding: photos.

But between then and now I have dismantled my parents' and my mother-in-law's homes, sorting and scattering their possessions. In doing so, I encountered several photo albums full of unidentified strangers. What was my responsibility to them? Were they to take up room in my car next time I had to flee? Would my children or my children's children one day wish I'd saved something from the flames other than photos of people they'd never met or barely remembered? What did my grandparents carry away from their shtetl when they escaped the pogroms?

Now, as this fire season rages, besides the old URGENT & ESSENTIAL envelope, it may come down to the pets, my antidepressants, eyeglasses, lip balm, phone and charger and library card. All else will or won't be intact in memory. And in the end, doesn't anything saved from a fire stand for all that is lost?

# Is it racist to call a black woman a dog?

emember when we generally accepted the premise that there is something inherently unseemly about calling each other names? But when it comes to name-calling, we're in new territory. Our president calls so many people so many names that we hardly notice unless an insult has an extra dose of venom, that is, it's not only crude and mean but also, say, racist.

So when President Trump called Omarosa Manigault Newman a "dog" last week, some suggested that the use of that particular term in connection with an African American is racist, that it's a dog whistle audible to the portion of our citizenry who think of black Americans as inferior.

I'm uncertain about this. As Freud probably never said, "Sometimes a cigar is just a cigar." And sometimes an insult is just an insult.

Still, the incident reminds me of signs that were commonly posted in front of restaurants and hotels in the Southwest during the early part of the last century: "No Dogs No Negroes No Mexicans." That's clear enough.

Furthermore, I don't find the White House's defense in this matter particularly convincing. Press Secretary Sarah Sanders said that Trump is an "equal opportunity person," meaning, I suppose, that he insults everyone, without regard to race, creed, color, gender or national origin. In fact, Trump's defenders quickly produced a list of eight or 10 white men who Trump has referred to as dogs.

But this defense sounds like a cousin to the faulty rationalization that some white people deploy to justify their use of the Nword, which is that if some African Americans use the N-word, then they can, too.

In other words, it's OK to use a term that would normally be seen as a racial slur, as long as I also call some white men the same thing.

But insults and racial slurs always have contexts, and their meanings depend on both the identity of the speaker and the ob-

# AMERICANS

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need more capital. Those companies then can hire new workers or otherwise expand their businesses.

Fifty-four percent of Americans own stocks. Among the multitudes: millions of workers who are saving for a secure retirement with 401(k) and similar accounts.

Yet a bull market doesn't benefit only shareholders. That faith in the future of private-sector companies helps drive economic growth—to the benefit of all Americans.

ject. It's simple: A Jew can call a Jew a Jew; a non-Jew can call a Jew a Jew; but if a non-Jew calls a non-Jew a Jew, it's an insult that capitalizes on a despicable racist stereotype. This is why, if you're going to call people names, be more mindful about who you are and about whom you're calling what.

Of course, Trump, well-known for his puerile preoccupation with appearance, has called plenty of white women dogs as well—Arianna Huffington, Rosie O'Donnell, Gail Collins. Sometimes he calls them pigs, too. He's using the conventional meaning of the slur to describe the appearance of women who don't rise to the standard that he believes complements his own physical attractiveness. They're not women who he would date, marry or bother to assault.

But in that sense of the slur, Omarosa isn't a dog. So maybe Trump is flirting with the racial sense, which equates other races with animals that can be dominated and whipped. It's easy to see why African Americans find this offensive.

I'm always hesitant to attribute too much strategy to any of Trump's statements. He often reacts angrily and impulsively. When it comes to name-calling he has an impressive arsenal at this fingertips and he uses it freely. Still, it's logical that his insults reflect his deep feelings about women, minorities and other "losers."

#### By JOHN M. CRISP

Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at jcrispcolumns@gmail.com.



So when Trump calls Omarosa a dog, is it just an insult? Or is it a racial slur? It's probably both.

Of course, it's a sorry passage we've come to when we have to consider questions like these. A better question is how we elected and why we tolerate a man who behaves in this way.

His defenders say that when people hit Trump, he hits back. This principle is prominent in playgrounds and daycares. One hopes for better in the Oval Office. One hopes for thicker skin, more deliberation, more restraint, more civility.

And one hopes that if the president is as unenlightened about race as he often appears to be, he finds a way to keep his misguided prejudices on a strong leash.



DAVID T. FOSTER III/CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/TNS

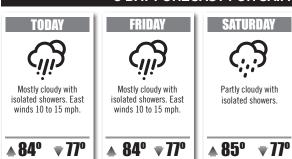
Reality TV personality Omarosa Manigault and other Women for Trump members endorse Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump during a campaign rally at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, N.C., on Friday, Oct. 14, 2016. Trump lashed out on Monday morning at former White House staffer Manigault Newman in the wake of her tell-all book, in which she called him narcissistic and racist.

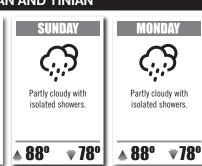
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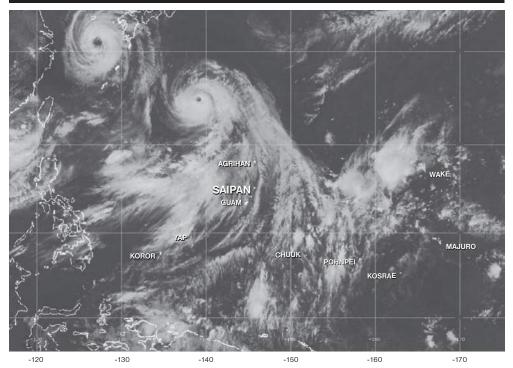
# The Weather

# 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN





#### YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



#### PICTURE TIME: 6:23 AM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Mostly cloudy skies with isolated showers now prevail across the Marianas. Moderate to fresh south winds are seen across the northern coastal waters. Latest buoy observations show seas between 5 and 8 feet. Typhoon Cimaron is now well northnorthwest of the Marianas.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

<b>MICRONESI</b>	A	<b>▲</b> ▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 75°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86° / 75°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°
AROUND TH	IE GLOBE	<b>▲</b> ▼°F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	57° / 48°
Beijing	Sunny	90° / 66°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°
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Beijing	Sunny	90° / 66°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 78°
London	Partly Cloudy	72° / 52°
Los Angeles	Sunny	83° / 65°
Manila	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	63° / 39°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	89° / 79°
New York	Sunny	83° / 67°
Osaka	Thunderstorm	90° / 82°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	81° / 57°
Busan	Showers	86° / 77°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	90° / 70°
Salem	Thunderstorm	87° / 69°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	63° / 55°
Seoul	Rain	82° / 73°
Tokyo	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Washington, DC	Sunny	80° / 62°



Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

through the following:

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■ Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIF	AN HARBOR TO	DAY FEET
4:39 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.68
12:05 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.01
7:05 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.70
-	-	-

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:03 AM	6:35 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:35 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:34 PM
Sunday	6:03 AM	6:33 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:33 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	3:07 AM	4:20 PM
Friday	-	3:56 AM	5:05 PM
Saturday	-	4:46 AM	5:49 PM
Sunday	-	5:35 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	-	6:24 AM	7:11 PM

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# **FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018**

DEPARTURES				A	RRIVA	LS	
SAIPAN-	GUAM (GUM)			GUAM (	GUM)-SAIF	PAN	
UA117	8:45am 9:30am	Daily		UA117	7:00am	7:45am	D

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7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7	7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5	7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SAIPAN-	SEOUL (IC	CN)		SEOUL (IC
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily	7C3402
0Z626	2:10am	6:00am	1	0Z625
0Z626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	TW307
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7	0Z625
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	LJ651
702401	4.00nm	7 /Enm	Daily	702404

1, 4, 5, 7

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SAIPAN-HA	NGZHO	OU (HGH)		ı	
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1		
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4		

5:40am 8:40am

3U8648

SAIPAN-GU	ANGZH	łOU (C <i>A</i>	N)	
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	

SAIPAN-E	BEIJING (	PEK)		
M11764	1.30am	6:35am	3. 5. 7	

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					
0Z626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN		
0Z626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM		
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM		
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR		

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				
HX077	1:50am 5:15am		1, 4	
0Z626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	
0Z626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7	
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	

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TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
0Z625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SHANGH	AI (PVG)-	SAIPAN	
3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
HANGZH	OU (HGH)	-SAIPAN	
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9:30am 3:00pm

7:40pm 1:00am+1 7

Daily

<b>GUANGZHO</b>	DU (CAI	N)-SAIPAI	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7
JD395	8:25am		4

7:40pm 3:00am+1 1,5

4:25pm 12:30am+1 2, 4, 6

RELING (DEK) SAIDAN

l	MANILA (N	INL)-SA	IPAN	
	UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
	0Z702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
	0Z702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
ı	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
	UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
	UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

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0Z722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

		S	TAR MARIA	NAS AII	R, INC.		
SAIPAN	TO ROTA			1204 1205	10:00AM 11:00AM	10:15AM 11:15AM	Daily Daily
FLIGHT # 1301 1302 1303	<b>DEPARTURE</b> 7:30AM 11:30AM 4:00PM	ARRIVAL 8:00AM 12:00PM 4:30PM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily Daily	1206 1207 1208 1209	12:00PM 1:00PM 2:00PM 3:00PM	12:15PM 1:15PM 2:15PM 3:15PM	Daily Daily Daily Daily
ROTA TO	SAIPAN			1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
<b>FLIGHT #</b> 3101	<b>DEPARTURE</b> 8:15AM	ARRIVAL 8:45AM	FREQUENCY Daily	1211 1212	5:00PM 6:00PM	5:15PM 6:15PM	Daily Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	TINIAN T	O SAIPAN		
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	FLIGHT#	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
ROTA TO	GUAM			2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
<b>FLIGHT #</b> 3401	<b>DEPARTURE</b> 12:15PM	ARRIVAL 12:45PM	FREQUENCY Daily	2103 2104 2105	8:30AM 9:30AM 10:30AM	8:45AM 9:45AM 10:45AM	Daily Daily Daily
<b>GUAM T</b>	O ROTA			2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
<b>FLIGHT #</b> 4301	<b>DEPARTURE</b> 1:00PM	ARRIVAL 1:30PM	FREQUENCY Daily	2107 2108	12:30PM 1:30PM	12:45PM 1:45PM	Daily Daily
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018 **13** 

# **Business**

# US plan for coal power deregulation could cause more deaths

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Trump administration on Tuesday moved to prop up the declining coal industry with an overhaul of Obama-era pollution rules, acknowledging that the increased emissions from aging coal-fired plants could kill hundreds more people annually and cost the country billions of dollars.

The proposal broadly increases the authority given to states to decide how and how much to regulate existing coal power plants.

The EPA said its Affordable Clean Energy rule "empowers states, promotes energy independence and facilitates economic growth and job creation."

"We are putting our great coal miners back to work," President Donald Trump crowed during a rally Tuesday night in West Virginia.

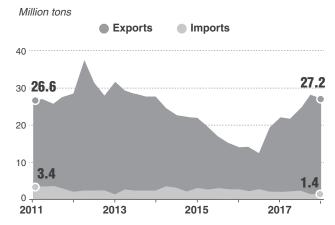
"We want a clean environment. ... I want clean air. I want crystal clean water and we've got it. We've got the cleanest country in the planet right now," Trump said. "But I'm getting rid of some of these ridiculous rules and regulations, which are killing our companies ... and our jobs."

Acting EPA administrator Andrew Wheeler told reporters, "Today we are fulfilling the president's agenda."

The proposal dismantles President Barack Obama's 2015 Clean Power Plan, one of his administration's legacy efforts against climate change. The Obama rules, which have been halted by court challenges, would have increased federal regulation of emissions from the nation's electrical grid and broadly promoted cleaner energy, including natural gas and solar and wind power.

Michelle Bloodworth, president of the American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity, a trade group that represents coal producers, called the new rule a marked departure from the "gross

# **Quarterly U.S. coal exports and imports**



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

overreach" of the Obama administration and said it should prevent a host of premature coal-plant retirements.

But the Natural Resources Defense Council called Trump's proposal the "Dirty Power Plan."

Gina McCarthy, EPA administrator when the Obama plan was developed, said the

proposed changes show the Trump administration emphasizing "coal at all costs."

The EPA's 289-page regulatory analysis acknowledged that every possible scenario under its proposal projects "small increases" in climate-changing emissions and some pollutants, compared to the Obama plan.

EPA officials said they could give no firm projections

for the health effects of their plan because that will depend on how states regulate power plants within their borders.

But models provided by the agency estimate that under the Trump plan, 300 to 1,500 more people would die prematurely each year by 2030, compared to the Obama plan.

The models for the Trump plan also project tens of thousands of additional major asthma attacks and hundreds more heart attacks compared with the Obama plan.

When health costs from air pollution — soot and smog killing people, increased asthma and heart attacks — are factored in, the repeal of the coal power plan would cost the country \$1.4 billion to \$3.9 billion annually, according to the agency.

"It shows that removing the Clean Power Plan would be detrimental to health," said University of North Carolina environmental engineering professor Jason West, who went through the agency's regulatory analysis with The

Associated Press.

"The cost to society in increases of death and other outcomes from air pollution are greater than the cost to industry from removing the Clean Power Plan," West said.

The projection of increased deaths and costs marks "what's extraordinary about this proposal," said Richard Revesz, dean emeritus at the New York University School of Law. "To their credit, they tell us directly, 'We are doing something to cause great harm to the American people.""

Environmentalists and other opponents said they expect legal challenges, arguing the Trump administration is abdicating its responsibilities under the Clean Air Act as set by Congress and the courts.

Bill Wehrum, head of the EPA's air office, told reporters that the administration rejects any suggestion the agency has a broad legal duty to combat climate change through regulation of power grids or promotion of cleaner energy.

# Facebook takes down 652 accounts linked to Russia, Iran

By RYAN NAKASHIMA

AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

Facebook has identified and banned hundreds of accounts, groups and pages engaged in misleading political behavior, a far larger discovery than a "sophisticated" effort it reported three weeks ago with great fanfare.

The social network said Tuesday that it had removed 652 pages, groups, and accounts linked to Russia and, unexpectedly, Iran, for "coordinated inauthentic behavior" that included the sharing of political material.

Facebook has significantly stepped up policing of its platform since last year, when it acknowledged that Russian agents successfully ran political influence operations on its platform that were aimed at swaying the 2016 presidential election. Other social media networks have done likewise, and continue to turn up fresh evidence of political disinformation campaigns.

Facebook's action in late July against 32 accounts possibly linked to Russia generally involved U.S. political activity ahead of the midterm elections in November. By contrast, the latest group of apparently fake accounts appeared more intent on influencing U.S. foreign policy and regional politics in the Middle East.

Shortly after Facebook's announcement, Twitter revealed that it had also suspended 284 accounts for "coordinated manipulation," many of them apparently originating from Iran. A day earlier, Microsoft also reported a new Russian effort to impersonate conservative U.S. websites, potentially as part of an espionage campaign.

The social network said it had not concluded its review of the material and declined to say how or why the state-backed actors were behaving the way they did. But it said it has informed the U.S. and U.K. governments as well as the U.S. Treasury and State departments because of ongoing sanctions against Iran.

"There's a lot we don't know yet," CEO Mark Zuckerberg said on a hastily called conference call with reporters Tuesday afternoon.

"You're going to see people try to abuse the services in every way possible ... including now nation states," he said. He described the deception campaigns as "sophisticated and well-funded efforts that aren't going to stop."

FireEye, a cybersecurity firm that alerted Facebook to some of this activity, noted that it "does not appear to have been specifically designed to influence the 2018 U.S. midterm elections, as it extends well beyond U.S. audiences and U.S. politics."

Facebook said its latest action on Tuesday morning resulted from four investigations — three involving Iran, one involving Russia.

The first focused on a group called "Liberty Front Press" that set up multiple accounts on Facebook and Instagram that were followed by 155,000 other accounts. The group was linked to Iranian state media based on website registrations, IP addresses and administrator accounts, Facebook said. The first accounts were created in 2013 and posted political content about the Middle East, the U.K., and the U.S., although the focus on the West increased starting last year, Facebook said.

# US adds to growing list of sanctions on Russia WASHINGTON (AP)—The State and Treasury depart—But the officials faced questions added ments told two Senate hear—tions from skeptical lawmak—tions fro

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Trump administration added to its growing list of sanctions against Russia on Tuesday as U.S. lawmakers urged tighter economic restrictions on Moscow and Britain's top diplomat accused Russia's leader of pursuing policies that are making the world more dangerous.

The Treasury Department announced two new actions against Russian targets: black-listing two companies and two individuals suspected of trying to circumvent U.S. sanctions imposed in June in response to cyberattacks; and against two Russian shipping companies suspected of transferring petroleum products to North Korean vessels in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions.

While President Donald Trump has sought closer ties with Russian President Vladimir Putin, his administration has intensified economic pressure on Moscow over what it describes as "malign Russian activity" in Ukraine and Syria and Russia's attempts to disrupt western democracies.

Senior officials from the

State and Treasury departments told two Senate hearings Tuesday that since January 2017, 217 Russian business people, officials, and private and state-run companies, including 14 banks and 20 energy firms, have been sanctioned. In addition, they recalled that the administration had expelled 60 Russian spies and closed Russia's consulates in San Francisco and Seattle.

Marshall Billingslea, the Treasury Department's top terrorist financing official, acknowledged that the threat from Russia was "significant and continuing" but told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that without the sanctions "their behavior would be even further off the charts."

He and the State Department's top diplomat for Europe, Wess Mitchell, said Russia is feeling the impact, costing its economy tens of billions of dollars, with companies under sanctions losing a quarter of their operating revenue and having to shed employees.

But the officials faced questions from skeptical lawmakers about the administration's policy toward Russia, particularly since Trump has sent conflicting messages about it. The committee's chairman, Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., called Trump's comments "undisciplined." Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., said it appeared to him as though the administration were pursuing two different policies: one of the president's and one of federal national security agencies.

Mitchell denied that. "This is the president's administration, this is his foreign policy." Although Trump himself has repeatedly cast doubt on Russia's culpability in 2016 election meddling, Mitchell and Billingslea both pointed to the Kremlin and Putin as the source.

"Putin wants to break apart the American republic, not by influencing an election or two, but by systematically inflaming the perceived fault-lines that exist within our society," Mitchell said. "His is a strategy of chaos for strategic effect."

# STOCK PORTFOLIO

# **LEADING INDICATORS**

**DOW** 25,822.29 +63.60 +0.25%

2,862.96 +5.91 +0.21% NASDAQ 7,859.17 +38.17 +0.49% Australian Dollar 1.36
British Pound 0.7743
Canadian Dollar 1.30
Chinese Yuan 6.84
Euro 0.8636

**EXCHANGE RATES** 

Hong Kong Dollar	7.85
Indian Rupee	69.85
Japanese Yen	110.43
Malaysian Ringgit	4.10
New Zealand Dollar	1.49
Philippine Peso	53.39

Russian Ruble	67.41
Singapore Dollar	1.37
South Korean Won	1118.43
Swiss Franc	0.98
Taiwan Dollar	30.71
Thailand Baht	32.70



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# **Nation**

# In courtroom, Manafort stood frozen as 8 guilty counts read

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP)— Paul Manafort stood stoic and unblinking, his hands clasped in front of him, as a court clerk read off eight guilty counts against him — a list of offenses that could send President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman to prison for more than a decade.

The 16-day bank and tax fraud trial was colorful throughout, with details about ostrich-leather jackets, dramatic testimony from a former protégé turned state's evidence, and a judge unafraid to lob rhetorical bombshells at lawyers.

But after four days of deliberations, Tuesday's verdict arrived somewhat sneakily, under the guise of what was billed as a generic note from the jury.

U.S. District Judge T.S. Ellis III read the note, which indicated that the jury had reached a verdict on eight counts but remained deadlocked on 10 others despite an admonition

earlier in the day from the judge to keep working toward unanimous verdicts.

At this point, Ellis indicated he believed he had a "manifest necessity to proceed" and thought further efforts to break the deadlock on the remaining 10 counts would be unwise.

Ellis then said he planned to call the jury in and have the verdicts on the eight unanimous counts read immediately. This came as an unpleasant surprise to some journalists, because Ellis had previously made clear anyone in the room would be required to stay in the courtroom for the entirety of the session.

Media outlets that wanted to be able to report the very first "guilty" or "not guilty" needed to be in an overflow room three levels down.

Indeed, a burly U.S. martemporarily blocked reporters from exiting the courtroom as the jury started



This courtroom sketch shows Paul Manafort listening to U.S. District court Judge T.S. Ellis III at federal court in Alexandria, Va., Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2018.

motioned for him to allow reporters a brief window of time to excuse themselves.

After that, all eyes foto make its way in, until Ellis cused on the jurors, and on Manafort. The jury of six men and six women kept their gaze primarily on the judge, as they have throughout the trial.

Manafort stood in a well-

worn dark suit and powderblue tie, staring at the jury as the clerk read off the counts finding him guilty. His face remained frozen even as the first "guilty" verdict was read, followed by seven straight additional pronouncements of "guilty."

When the jury was done, Manafort sat back down with

Residents prepare as hurricane

his lawyers. As Ellis thanked the jury for the service, Manafort stared down blankly at the defense table.

The tension in the courtroom broke temporarily as Ellis complimented the lawyers on both sides for their work and digressed briefly to discuss the attention the case has generated and the critiques levied against him.

"We all take brickbats in life," Ellis said in typically florid language, prompting smiles and light laughter from the lawyers and those in the gallery. Manafort remained grim and stone-faced.

Manafort sat blankly through the final few minutes of the hearing, as the judge and lawvers discussed timelines for prosecutors to decide on seeking a retrial for the 10 counts that went deadlocked and for defense lawyers to decide on filing a motion asking the judge to set aside the convictions.

He appeared to make contact to make eye contact with his wife, Kathleen, who has sat in the front row of the gallery behind him throughout the trial, before being led out by marshals.

# Politicians target immigration law after arrest in Iowa case

MONTEZUMA,

(AP)—The disappearance of a well-liked college student from America's heartland had touched many people since she vanished one month ago while out for a run. But the stunning news that a Mexican man living in the U.S. illegally has allegedly confessed to kidnapping and murdering her thrust the case into the middle of the contentious immigration debate and midterm elections.

President Donald Trump seized on the man's arrest in the death of Mollie Tibbetts on Tuesday to call the nation's immigration laws "a disgrace" that will only be fixed by electing more Republicans. Iowa's Republican governor, facing a tough re-election challenge in November, blasted an immigration system that "allowed a predator like this to live in our community." And Iowa's two GOP U.S. senators called the death a tragedy that "could have been prevented."

Cristhian Bahena Rivera, 24, was arrested and charged with first-degree murder in the death of the 20-year-old Tibbetts, whose July 18 disappearance set off a massive search involving state and federal authorities.

Rivera led investigators early Tuesday to a body believed to be Tibbetts in a cornfield about 12 miles (19 kilometers) southeast of Brooklyn, Iowa, where Tibbetts was last seen going for a routine evening run, Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation special agent Rick Rahn said.



This undated photo provided by the Iowa Department of Public Safety shows Cristhian Bahena Rivera.

"I can't speak about the motive. I can just tell you that it seemed that he followed her, seemed to be drawn to her on that particular day, for whatever reason he chose to abduct her," Rahn told reporters at a news conference outside the sheriff's office in Montezuma, where Rivera was being jailed on \$1 million cash-only bond.

Within hours, Trump noted the arrest at a rally in West Virginia on a day when his former personal lawyer and ex-campaign chairman both faced major legal problems.

"You heard about today with the illegal alien coming in, very sadly, from Mexico and you saw what happened to that incredible, beautiful young woman," Trump told the crowd in Charleston. "Should've never happened. Illegally in our country. We've had a huge impact, but the laws are so bad.

The immigration laws are such a disgrace, we're getting them changed, but we have to get more Republicans. We have to get 'em."

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds said residents were heartbroken and angry. U.S. Sens. Chuck Grassley and Joni Ernst vowed, "We cannot allow these tragedies to continue."

Trump has made further crackdown on illegal immigration a core policy of his administration. He often has claimed widespread crime by people living in the country illegally, citing among other things the indictments of 11 suspected MS-13 gang members from El Salvador charged in connection with the slayings of two Virginia teens. Trump also has held events at the White House with members of "angel families," whose relatives were killed by immigrants.

Although Trump claims legal U.S. residents are less likely to commit crime, several studies from social scientists and the libertarian think tank Cato Institute find that isn't accurate and states with a higher share of people living in the country illegally have lower violent crime rates.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said it lodged a federal immigration detainer for Rivera after he was arrested on the murder charge. That move means the agency has probable cause to believe he is subject to deportation.

Investigators said they believed Rivera had lived in the area from four to seven years.

In a statement late Tuesday, Yarrabee Farms said Rivera had worked at its farms for the last four years and was an employee in good standing. The Brooklyn-based company said it was shocked to hear that Rivera was charged in Tibbetts' death. Yarrabee Farms is owned by the family of Craig Lang, a prominent Republican who previously served as president of the Iowa Farm Bureau.

A search of Iowa court records revealed no prior criminal history, and it's unclear whether he had ever been subject to prior deportation proceedings.

Rivera's Facebook page described him as being from Guayabillo, a community of less than 500 people in the Mexican state of Guerrero. It's about a three-hour drive from the resort city of Acapulco.

near Hawaii strengthens HONOLULU (AP)—Hawaii residents rushed to grocery stores Tuesday to stock up on bottled water, ramen and toilet paper as they faced the threat of heavy rain, flash flooding and high surf from a powerful

and erratic hurricane expected

to churn close to the islands or

directly over them.

On Tuesday night, the National Weather Service announced that Hurricane Lane had strengthened to become a Category 5 hurricane, which means that it is likely to cause catastrophic damage with winds 157 mph or above. The hurricane is about 500 miles (804 kilometers) southeast of Honolulu.

The weather service says that in a Category 5 hurricane, a high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed. Roofs and walls will collapse, and the winds will knock down trees and power pole. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months, and most of an area hit by a Category 5 hurricane will be uninhabitable for weeks or months, the weather service added.

Earlier Tuesday, the weather service issued a hurricane warning for Hawaii island. A hurricane watch was issued for Maui and other smaller islands, meaning tropical

storm-force winds, excessive rain and large swells could arrive starting Wednesday. It's possible Oahu and Kauai may later be included in a weather service advisory for the hurricane.

Hurricane Lane "is forecast to move dangerously close to the main Hawaiian islands as a hurricane later this week, potentially bringing damaging winds and life-threatening flash flooding from heavy rainfall," the weather service's Central Pacific Hurricane Center warned as it got closer to the state.

The storm had been moving west but is expected to turn northwest toward the state Wednesday. There's some uncertainty to Lane's path — whether it moves north or south, meteorologist Gavin Shigesato said.

"It is much too early to confidently determine which, if any, of the main Hawaiian islands will be directly impacted by Lane," the weather service said.

But the hurricane center said the storm will move very close to or over the islands from Thursday through Saturday. Even if the center of Lane doesn't make landfall, the islands could be walloped with rain and wind.

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# Asia

# Heavily pork-reliant China battling African swine fever

**BEIJING** (AP)—China, the world's largest producer of pork, is battling an African swine fever outbreak that potentially devastate herds.

The disease, which only affects pigs and wild boar, has been detected in at least three locations across the vast country. Thousands of pigs have died or been culled in an effort to curb the spread of the highly contagious viral disease.

The appearance of the disease comes as China seeks to shift pig rearing from farmyards to vast breeding operations where waste and the spread of disease can be better controlled.

China produces as many as 600 million pigs annually and pork is a staple of the Chinese diet, accounting for more than 60 percent of animal protein consumed.

The fluctuating price of the staple meat is highly sensitive and the government maintains a large frozen supply to release when prices rise too high. Soaring demand for more meat and richer diets over recent years have brought massive profits to large firms able to harness the latest technology for improved efficiency.

In the eastern city of Li-

been culled after an outbreak was detected last week, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. Inspectors found 615 pigs had been infected and 88 died. Measures are also being taken to disinfect contaminated areas and block the disease's spread to other farms.

Earlier this Shenyang in the northeast reported China's first outbreak

anyungang, 15,000 pigs have of the disease, with 47 pig infected, all of which died, the ministry said. Infected pigs were also found last week at a slaughterhouse in the city of Zhengzhou, where they had been transported from Jiamusi in the far north. Authorities were looking into the source of that outbreak in which all 30 of the infected pigs died.

African swine fever out-

breaks have also been reported in the European Union, chiefly in the Baltics, Poland and Romania.

Denmark plans to erect a 70-kilometer (43.4-mile) fence along the German border to keep out wild boars, in the hope of preventing the spread of African swine fever, which stands to jeopardize the country's valuable pork



In this Dec. 19, 2014, photo, a worker digs in a fermentation bed at an organic pig farm in Handan in northern China's Hebei province.

# **ASIAN BRIEFS**

#### Pakistan's new PM proposes dialogue with India

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's newly-elected prime minister on Tuesday offered to start a dialogue with India to resolve long-running disputes between the two nuclear-armed rivals, including over the Kashmir region. Imran Khan, a former cricket star who was sworn in last week, tweeted that the two countries should focus on alleviating poverty in South Asia by pursuing new trade agreements. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Khan after his swearing-in and expressed a desire for talks. Khan's inauguration was attended by Navjot Singh Sidhu, an Indian former cricket player and longtime friend, who faced criticism from hard-line nationalists upon his return to India. Khan thanked Sidhu, calling him an "ambassador of peace," and said his detractors were doing a "disservice"

to peace in the subcontinent. "Without peace our people cannot progress" Khan said. India and Pakistan have fought three wars since gaining independence from Britain in 1947, two of them over Kashmir, a Himalayan region split between Indian and Pakistani control and claimed by both in its entirety. Pakistan's new foreign minister. Shah Mahmood Qureshi, said Tuesday that a cease-fire along the Line of Control dividing the two zones was in the interest of both countries. India and Pakistan signed a cease-fire agreement in 2003, but the two regularly exchange fire across the Line of Control, killing and wounding civilians on both sides. Each accuses the other of violating the truce.

## **Indonesia sinks 125** mostly foreign illegal fishing vessels

Indonesia JAKARTA, (AP)—Indonesia has sunk 125 mostly foreign vessels

involved in illegal fishing as it ramps up efforts to exert greater control over its vast maritime territory, an official said Wednesday. The sinkings at 11 locations across Indonesia were carried out simultaneously on Monday. Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Ministry spokeswoman Lily Pregiwati said Wednesday the operation wasn't announced in advance to avoid straining relations with neighboring countries. Indonesia says it has sunk 488 illegal fishing vessels since October 2014, usually with explosives. The government says the illegal boats are a threat to the local fishing industry. Their operators are frequently perpetrators of modern day slavery, using workers trafficked from Southeast Asian nations. The vessels sunk on Monday included 86 Vietnamese-flagged ships, 20 Malaysian and 14 from the Philippines. Video shot by local media showed fishery ministry workers scrambling to an adjacent boat from a sinking vessel that had been filled with sand and flooded.

# Fire in multi-story building in Mumbai; **10** feared trapped

NEW DELHI (AP)—An official says a fire has broken out on the 14th floor of a residential building in Mumbai, India's financial and entertainment capital. Ten people are feared trapped. A fire official says 12 fire engines are trying to douse the flames. The cause of the fire that started Wednesday in Mumbai's Parel area is not yet known. Zee television news channel says firefighters are trying to rescue 10 people feared trapped in the building. No casualties have been reported so far. Fires are common in India, where building laws and safety norms are often flouted by builders and residents. In December, a late-night fire in a Mumbai restaurant killed 15 people.

# US commander says pressure is key to nuclear diplomacy

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The commander of U.S. forces in South Korea said Wednesday that he's cautiously optimistic nuclear diplomacy will work out with North Korea. But he also said Seoul and Washington must continue to apply pressure so that "there's not a reason or even an ability" for the North to back out.

Gen. Vincent Brooks told reporters that reports about continuing nuclear and missile development activities in North Korea show that Pyongyang currently lacks confidence that it can take real steps toward denuclearization and still be safe.

"While I do seek to have empathy to understand why North Korea is doing what it's doing and where it's coming from, nevertheless, this is a condition North Korea created for itself," Brooks said in a news conference in Seoul. "They will have to take the risk to move into the direction toward peace, given that they created the circumstances we are in."

Following a provocative year in weapons development, during which it tested a purported thermonuclear warhead and demonstrated potential capability to strike the U.S. mainland, the North has shifted to a diplomatic approach in 2018.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un held a historic summit with President Donald Trump in June. They issued aspirations for a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula without describing when or how it would occur.

Post-summit talks aimed at mapping out a denuclearization process got off to a rocky start, with North Korea accusing a senior U.S. delegation led by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo of making unilateral demands for the country to relinquish its arsenal. North Korea has also been demanding that the United States fast-track discussions on a declaration to formally end the Korean War, which stopped with an armistice and

not a peace treaty.

Nuclear diplomacy with North Korea has been littered with failures in past decades. But Brooks said the chances of success are better this time around because of the change of governments in Washington and Seoul and also because the threat posed by the North's nuclear and long-range missile program is greater than ever. For diplomatic efforts to succeed, it would be critical for the allies and North Korea to overcome distrust and misperception, where "actions taken by one party are not understood the way they were intended to be by the actor when the receiver sees it," Brooks said.

He noted that the United States and North Korea have made important trust-building steps in past weeks, such as the North returning 55 sets of remains of what are believed to be U.S. servicemen killed during the 1950-53 Korean War.

"It was a very important step, but it's akin to one plank being put down on a long bridge that crosses a long gap of distrust," Brooks said.

Analysts say a declaration to officially end the war would make it easier for Pyongyang to steer the discussions with Washington toward a peace treaty, diplomatic recognition, security assurance and economic benefits.

Washington has maintained that Pyongyang wouldn't be offered sanctions relief and significant rewards unless it firmly commits to a process of completely and verifiably eliminating its nuclear weapons.

"There clearly is an urgency for this, especially on part of North Korea. But this is one that really has to be understood among especially the three countries - South Korea, North Korea and the United States." Brooks said. "What it means has to be very clear, that needs to be understood in advance, and what it doesn't mean also perhaps need to be understood."

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# World

# Search called off in Italy gorge flood that killed 10

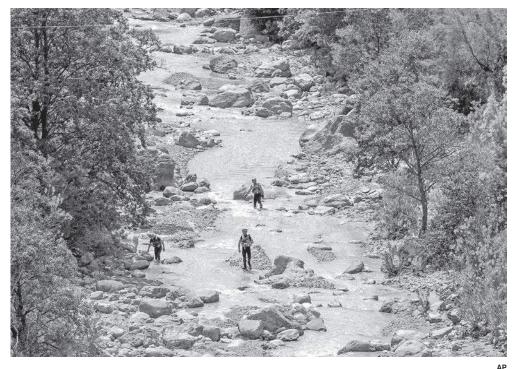
MILAN (AP)—Italy's environmental minister on Tuesday urged prosecutors to look at possible criminal responsibility and administrative lapses that may have contributed to the deaths of 10 people swept away by a flash flood as they hiked through a narrow gorge in the southern region of Calabria.

Rescue workers saved 34 people Monday after a torrent about 2 ½ meters (8 feet) deep filled the narrow Raganello Gorge, which features rock faces as high as 700 meters (2,300 feet) inside the vast Pollino National Park. Of those, 11 were hospitalized, including at least four children — several of whom lost either one or both of their parents.

Three people who had been listed as missing had changed plans and were located elsewhere, and officials called off the search for any further possible victims.

"Italy is tired of crying for the dead. Enough," environment minister Sergio Costa said during a visit to the scene. "If what happened is the result of negligence, sloppiness or a lack of awareness of the risks, we are facing a serious situation that we need to get to the bottom of."

The tragedy came six days after a highway bridge collapse in the northern port city of Genoa killed 43 people.



Rescuers search through the Raganello stream, Italy, Tuesday Aug. 21, 2018.

Italian prosecutors on Tuesday opened a criminal investigation into the gorge deaths, and the government has asked for a separate administrative proceeding to determine if there were lapses that contributed to the deaths.

Prosecutor Eugenio Facciolla said authorities were investigating possible charges including manslaughter, causing bodily harm and official negligence, the news agency ANSA reported. No target has been identified.

Questions focused on whether weather alerts had been properly issued and heeded, and whether access to the gorge and its challenging terrains should be better regulated.

Meteorologists say that the intense rainfall that provoked the torrent wasn't particularly extraordinary for the period. Still, rescue workers and officials said flash floods in the gorge are rare in the summer, and that one of that magnitude hadn't registered for

about a century.

"Without a doubt, the event was of a weight we haven't seen for many years. We are talking about at least 90 years ago," the president of the Pollino National Park, Domenico Pappaterra, told Sky TG24.

Pappaterra said the park's own guides don't bring hikers through the canyon, and he said that only well-equipped and trained trekkers should access the upper part of the canyon. The lower area, near a manmade stone crossing known as

# At least 10 hikers killed, others rescued after flash flooding in southern Italy Rome Sardinia Tyrrhenian Sea ITALY 100 miles TUNISIA Med. Sea DETAIL AREA Source: AP Graphic: Staff, TNS

Devil's Bridge, is more accessible to casual tourists.

"There are those out for an adventure, and they do it in a careless way," he said.

The victims, who were

among two groups of trekkers on an excursion, appeared to have been spread throughout the 12-kilometer-long (7-1/2-mile-long) gorge.

Pasquale Gagliardi, a doctor with an emergency helicopter service, told ANSA that one of the survivors was an 8-year-old girl, found in a state of shock next to a body. Her parents were believed to be among the dead.

Italian media reported that the dead were all Italians. Costa said Dutch tourists were among those who survived.

A local resident who helped respond to the emergency, identified only as Claudio, told ANSA that he helped two youths from Naples who managed to climb out of the gorge on their own.

#### **WORLD BRIEFS**

#### IS claims responsibility for deadly attack in Chechnya

**MOSCOW** (AP)—The Islamic State group has claimed responsibility for a series of attacks on Chechen police in Russia's Northern Caucasus. The attacks Monday in three locations in Russia's predominantly Muslim Chechnya left several policemen injured. Five militants, aged between 11 and 16, were killed. IS claimed responsibility Tuesday for the attack in the regional capital Grozny and in the Shali area just south of Grozny. Radical Islamic militants, some of whom have sworn allegiance to IS, have conducted sporadic raids in Chechnya in the past, defying the rule of the Kremlin-friendly leader Ramzan Kadyrov. Monday's violence indicated the Islamist insurgency remains active in the province despite authorities' claims that it has been eradicated.

#### Aid groups urge Italy to allow 177 migrants to disembark

MILAN (AP)—Humanitarian groups urged the Italian government Tuesday to allow 177 migrants aboard an Italian coast guard ship docked at the Sicilian port of Catania to be permitted to disembark. Doctors Without Borders, the U.N. refugee agency and Save the Children have all appealed to the government to let the migrants off the ship for humanitarian and medical reasons. The Italian coast guard ship Diciotto arrived in Catania late Monday, but the Italian government won't let them off the ship until it has pledges from other European countries to take them, in the latest standoff over migrants being rescued at sea. The migrants rescued last week have been on the boat about six days. Doctors Without Borders said its team is standing by to offer psychological assistance to the migrants, urged Italy "to allow disembarkation so that rapid treatment can be given."

#### Iranian media: Sandstorm in Iran sends 95 people to hospital

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—

Iran's semi-official Mehr news agency says 95 people were taken to hospitals after suffering breathing problems during a sand-and-dust storm in the southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchistan. Tuesday's report quotes Abdolrahman Shahnavazi, the provincial director general of disaster management, as saying that 68 people were treated and released overnight while 27 remain hospitalized. Mehr says the sandstorm hit the province on Monday, with wind speeds of up to 115 kilometers per hour, or about 71 miles per hour. It says that particulate matter concentration — the concentration of small solid and liquid particles potentially harmful — is 30 times above standard acceptable levels. Iran, like many neighboring countries, suffers from sandstorms that occasionally affect many parts of the country, including central parts and the capital, Tehran.

# War-ravaged Bosnia struggles to cope with new migrants

BIHAC, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP)—Not so long ago, people in Bosnia were sarcastically joking that their warscarred country is in such a bad shape that not even the migrants fleeing violence and poverty in the Mideast and Africa were willing to pass through it.

That's not the case anymore. As previous migration routes to Western Europe from the Balkans have closed off over the past year, the trail has shifted toward Bosnia. Now the impoverished nation is trying secure proper shelters for at least 4,000 people expected to be stranded in its territory throughout the coming winter.

Peter Van der Auweraert of the International Organization for Migration says it's a race against time.

"We have to accelerate the process, because the danger is that when the first snow falls . we will have people sleeping outside in conditions that even in summer were already not acceptable," he said.

Since the beginning of the year, close to 11,000 migrants and refugees have entered

Bosnia, which has never truly recovered from its brutal 1992-95 war, which left more than 100,000 dead and forced more than half the population to flee before a peace deal was brokered.

That compares to just 755 migrant arrivals for all of 2017.

Bosnian authorities have increased border controls along its northeastern border with Serbia, but between 400 and 500 migrants are still entering Bosnia weekly.

Most end up living in horrible conditions in the northwestern Krajina region on the border with European Union member Croatia, which shares a 1,000-kilometer (620-mile) border with Bosnia.

Thousands have been staying in an abandoned dormitory, a windowless, roofless concrete building on the edge of Bihac, and in tents in the woodlands surrounding it. In the nearby cities of Velika Kladusa and Cazin, smaller groups of migrants have set up squalid makeshift camps where they spend days curled up on the ground, cooking simple meals over open fires

and watching their children play in the dirt.

Local Red Cross volunteers have been providing food for migrants and refugees in Bihac since April. At first, they fed just a few hundred people, relying on local donations. But since July, they have been serving two meals a day to 1,500 migrants who are also receiving basic health care from local medical workers.

Although the U.N. refugee agency and the IOM have now joined the effort, local volunteers are desperate for more help.

"We are reaching the end of our rope, because this has been going on for four months already. Only God knows what awaits us in the future," said Abdulah Budimlic, head of the Red Cross organization in Bihac.

While around 60 percent of those who entered Bosnia this year have managed to cross into Croatia, more and more migrants in Bihac and Velika Kladusa have accused Croatian police of beating them, confiscating their meager belongings and pushing them back into Bosnia.

Croatian police have repeat-

edly denied those claims.

"They take your mobile phones, your power pack. They destroy these and say 'Don't come back," said Abdul Hai Baloch from Pakistan's volatile Balochistan province.

Amjad Dakkakn, a 25-yearold from Syria, echoed the sentiment, swinging his fists to illustrate how he was treated by Croatian border guards, calling them thieves for smashing his phone and taking his money.

"They are hitting us as they hit an animal," claimed AbuBakar Khan, a 20-year-old from Pakistan who has made several unsuccessful attempts to cross the border since arriving in Bihac about a month ago.

Having lived through their country's brutal 1990s war, Bosnians sympathize more than most with those fleeing their homes in search of a better, safer life. But they are growing more vocal in their criticism of the national government, accusing officials of forcing towns and villages to deal with the migrants' many needs on their own.

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# Environment

# Record heat in

By RONG-GONG LIN II and JAVIER PANZAR

LOS ANGELES TIMES

#### FRANCISCO—At SAN Scripps Pier in San Diego, the surface water reached the highest temperature in 102

years of records, 78.8 degrees. Palm Springs had its warmest July on record, with an average of 97.4 degrees. Death Valley experienced its hottest month on record, with the average temperature hitting 108.1. Park rangers said the

Across California, the nighttime brought little relief, recording the highest minimum temperature statewide of any month since 1895, rising to 64.9.

heat was too much for some

typically hardy birds that died

in the broiling conditions.

California has been getting hotter for some time, but July was in a league of its own. The intense heat fueled fires across the state, from San Diego County to Redding, that have burned more than 1,000 homes and killed eight. It brought heat waves that overwhelmed electrical systems, leaving swaths of Los Angeles without power for days.

The extreme conditions capping years of trends heading in this direction — have caused scientists and policymakers to speak more openly and emphatically about what is causing this dramatic shift.

A decade ago, some scientists would warn against making broad conclusions linking an extraordinary heat wave to global warming. But the pace of heat records being broken in California in recent years is leading more scientists here to assertively link climate change to unrelenting heat that is only expected to worsen as humans continue putting greenhouse gases in the air.

"In the past, it would just be kind of once in a while — the odd year where you be really warm," state climatologist Michael Anderson said.

But the last five years have been among the hottest in 124 years of record keeping, Anderson said.

"That's definitely an indication that the world is warming, and things are starting to change," said Anderson, who manages the California Department of Water Resources' state climate program. "We're starting to see things where it's different. It's setting the narrative of climate change."

California Gov. Jerry Brown, who has made climate change a central part of his agenda, was more blunt last week when discussing the devastation in Redding.

"People are doing every-

thing they can, but nature is very powerful and we're not on the side of nature," he said. "We're fighting nature with the amount of material we're putting in the environment, and that material traps heat."

Signs of the trend are everywhere. California endured its warmest summer on record last year. All-time temperature records have been topped in recent months - San Francisco notched 106 degrees in September; downtown L.A. recorded its hottest Thanksgiving Day on record at 92 degrees.

On July 6, all-time temperature records were set at the University of California, Los Angeles (111), Burbank and Santa Ana (114), and Van Nuys (117). Chino hit 120 degrees, the highest ever recorded at an automated surface observing system in the Ontario, Riverside or Chino areas.

It was the warmest July on record in Fresno; for 26 consecutive days that month, temperatures reached or exceeded 100 degrees — the longest continuous stretch on record, said Brian Ochs, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Hanford. (Maximum temperatures have continued to top 100 through the first several days of August.)

In terms of average temperature, it was the warmest July on record in San Luis Obispo (69.5), Oxnard (73.1), Camarillo (74.6), Long Beach (77.9), Van Nuys (83.6), Lancaster (87.2) and Palmdale (87.8). Anaheim saw its second-warmest July (81.3); Newport Beach, its fourth warmest (71.8); and San Diego, its fifth (75.2), said weather service meteorologist Samantha Connolly.

Of particular concern is how overnight temperatures continue to climb. The years with the top six warmest summertime minimum temperatures in California — defined as June through August — in descending order, are 2017, 2015, 2014, 2006, 2016 and 2013.

It's no coincidence that they're all in recent years, experts say.

"We are seeing the impacts of climate change now," said Nina Oakley, regional climatologist for the Western Regional Climate Center in Reno. "This is certainly it. It's happening."

The effects are felt far beyond the record books. When the mercury hit 113, Redding tied its temperature record for July 26 — the day the Carr fire raced out of control and began killing people.

It was one day among months of above-average temperatures that had dried out the

# California no fluke, experts warn



most popular destination in the park-remains clouded in smoke from the Ferguson fire, which has burned almost 64,000 acres over the past three weeks, including parts of the national park in Yosemite National Park, Calif., on August 1, 2018.

brush to such a degree that it helped fuel the blaze's ferocious spread.

And the lack of lower temperatures overnight has made fires harder to fight.

"You have greenhouse gases acting like a blanket and not letting things cool down as much — keeping things warmer," Oakley said.

Take a look at a map of the world's temperatures years ago, and an old heat wave would be obvious to spot just one spot on Earth that's anomalously warm, said Neil Lareau, assistant professor of atmospheric sciences at the University of Nevada, Reno. Now, "in pretty much the vast majority of the globe, it's hotter than normal," he said.

July's exceptional heat puts the state on track to be in the running for the warmest summer on record, exceeding the record broken just last year, said UCLA climate scientist Daniel Swain.

"This is not some fluke. This is part of a sustained trend," Swain said.

The excessive heat is already causing problems for wildlife.

In Death Valley, where daytime highs reached at least 120 degrees on 18 of the last 19 days of the month, about a dozen birds - including a raven, an owl and a brown-headed cowbird — have turned up dead in the last two weeks, the National Park Service said. The birds lacked signs of trauma, leading officials to believe they died from the intense heat. Birds lack the ability to produce sweat and instead cool themselves by puffing up their feathers and panting.

Park rangers have found groups of songbirds and ravens huddled around small puddles and in the shade of a maintenance building, spokeswoman Abby Wines said.

"This isn't normal for us," she said.

Before this July, last year's was the hottest on record at Death Valley, when the average temperature hit 107.4. That one broke a 100-year-old record.

Off the Southern California coast, scientists say more record temperature readings could be broken in August, when maximum surface temperatures tend to be reached.

Warming water temperatures can alter the marine food chain in various ways bringing about toxic algae that make crabs, for example, dangerous to eat. Researchers are also seeing more warm water animals off the coast like jellyfish and sting rays.

Researchers had wondered whether the last few years of

other parts of the park remain open to guests.

unusually warm Southern California waters would drop back to normal. They blamed an unusually warm mass of water called "the blob" that parked itself in the Pacific Ocean from 2014 through about 2016.

Some experts thought water temperatures would return to more normal lower levels after El Nino faded, said Clarissa Anderson, executive director of the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System.

But that hasn't happened. Although temperatures have been decreasing near the equator since 2016, temperatures have kept rising off Southern California, with near-shore surface temperatures a couple of degrees Celsius higher than average, Anderson said.

And the warm air temperatures are a foreboding sign for the rest of the fire season.

Projections show the next few months are likely to have

well above-average activity in most of California's fire zones, particularly in northern and central California, where the worst fires are burning now, Swain said.

"The fuels up there are just explosively dry," Swain said, "due to a combination of low precipitation last winter, extremely high temperatures this summer and also, still, the legacy of the long-term drought."

"We're having peak fire season conditions in the offpeak time of year, and there's no real indication that things are going to get better before the peak of the season in the fall," Swain said.

Barring an unseasonable period of rain, conditions will remain ripe for severe fires, he said.

"Time will tell, but it does look like this severe fire season is going to continue to be severe," Swain said.

Scott Gediman, public affairs officer Yosemite National Park, walks across Stoneman Meadow in the Yosemite Valley, which remains clouded in smoke from the Ferguson fire, in Yosemite National Park, Calif., on August 1, 2018. The Yosemite Valley is closed while

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# Life & Style

# Madonna's rambling Aretha Franklin tribute earns backlash

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The backlash was swift for Madonna's rambling, egocentric tribute to Aretha Franklin at the MTV Video Music Awards, with media and Queen-of-Soul fans wondering why she got the gig in the first place.

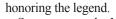
Dressed in flowing black with grandiose flourishes of African jewelry, Madonna's send-off came before she presented the video of the year award to Camila Cabello on Monday night. She spoke at length about her own start in the business and her own career before thanking Franklin for "empowering all of us. R.E.S.P.E.C.T."

Cabello then collected the

biggest award of the night for her "Havana" video with a bow to Madonna, dedicating the trophy to, you guessed it, Madonna.

There was a short video of early Franklin that played

before Madonna said that the icon who died Thursday "changed the course of my life," and Franklin's "Respect" played as the night's closing credits rolled. But there was no live musical performance



Some accused Madonna, in her spiky silver

headpiece, heavy necklaces and beaded bracelets, of cultural appropriation. Far more accused her of making the show's only tribute to Franklin all about herself.

"I'm so lost," radio host Charlamagne Tha God tweeted. "I thought Madonna was supposed to be paying homage to Aretha but all I heard was her paying homage to herself."

After describing her teen exit

from Detroit to make her name in show business, Madonna said at one point, "So, you are probably all wondering why I am telling you this story."

Why, yes. Before she got to the point (she sang "(You Make Me Feel Like) a Natural Woman" acapella at an audition of yore), Madonna meandered through references to Paris, poverty, guitar lessons and finally her backside hanging out at a VMAs show after breaking a stiletto.

"Does Madonna know Madonna didn't die?" ESPN's Katie Nolan tweeted.

Marc Snetiker of Entertain-

#### Madonna with Madonna and Madonna as 'Madonna'." The response was not unlike that from some fans of Prince when Madonna donned Woman lmaooo.'

him soon after his death, at the 2016 Billboard Music Awards. The Madonna Twitter roast-

a "Purple Rain" suit to honor

ing included this from one angry Franklin fan: "Only madonna would tell her life story while honoring a dead Black

# Rapper Post Malone's jet blows two tires but then lands safely

NEWBURGH, N.Y. (AP)—A private jet carrying rapper Post Malone blew two tires during takeoff at a small New Jersey airport on Tuesday but made a safe emergency landing hours later in upstate New York, prompting the rapper to thank fans who prayed for him and diss those who "wished death" on him while he was in the air.

ment Weekly described the

speech on Twitter as "Madon-

na presents an Aretha Franklin

tribute by Madonna featuring

The face-tattooed singer/ rapper, who had been headed to England, tweeted, "i landed guys."

"Oh, my God, I hate flying in general. I don't even know what to say, man. I'm shook," he told the celebrity website TMZ on Facetime. "There was one hell of a team on that aircraft, and we're here, we're here on earth, and I need a beer, and I need some wine, at the same time, mixed together."

The plane had 16 people on board when it left Teterboro Airport on Tuesday morning, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

Fans gathered at New York Stewart International Airport in Newburgh, about 70 miles (112 kilometers) north of New York City, after hearing the rapper was on board, and they cheered when the plane landed just before 4 p.m. The rapper was scheduled to perform at the Reading and Leeds Festival in England over the weekend, according Massachusetts.

to his website's tour schedule. "thank you for your prayers," he posted on Twitter after Tuesday's emergency landing. "can't believe how many people wished death on

me on this website." The troubled Gulfstream IV was en route from Teterboro to London Luton Airport in Luton, England, when the pilot realized shortly after takeoff that the tires had blown. The pilot circled the airport for about 30 minutes before the jet was diverted.

The plane originally was to attempt an emergency landing at Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport in Massachusetts, airport manager Eric Billowitz said. It circled over Connecticut to burn fuel, a practice sometimes used to decrease the risk of explosion and fire during emergency landings.

Post Malone had been in the New York area on Monday for the MTV Video Music Awards, where he won the song of the year prize.

A small group of the curious and fans who had heard he was on the plane on Tuesday initially gathered at the airport in Westfield, Massachusetts, hoping to watch the landing.

"We came down because he had the biggest day of his life yesterday and we wanted to make sure he is safe," said Jessica Kielb, of Chicopee,

as a woman and a person of

spaces." She wrote

she started blam-

ing herself and felt

brainwashed into

believing her exis-

tence was "limited

to the boundaries

of another person's

# Crazy Rich Asians' hoopla elicits mixed feelings in Asia

Madonna

**SINGAPORE** (AP)—The craze for "Crazy Rich Asians" is hitting Asia, with a premiere in Singapore followed by openings in several neighboring countries later this week.

Much of the over-the-top romantic comedy was set in this wealthy city-state. As the stars streamed past flashing lights down the red carpet Tuesday evening, fans and tourists swarmed around them taking photos and asking for selfies.

The movie is expected to enthusiastic crowds across Asia after its box-office bonanza in the U.S.

Directed by John M. Chu, the film was adapted from Singaporean author Kevin Kwan's best-selling novel of the same name. It follows Chinese-American Rachel Chu as she travels with her boyfriend Nick Young to Singapore to meet his family and discovers they are ultra-wealthy.

The movie is drawing a mixed reaction. Admirers of the film say that as the first majority Asian-cast film in over two decades to be released by a major Hollywood studio it upends Hollywood's usual stereotypes of Asian characters. Critics say it misses a chance to showcase Singapore's ethnic diversity.

The \$30 million Warner Bros. film has grossed more than \$35 million since its Aug. 15 world debut in Los Angeles and came out tops with its release in U.S. the-



In this Aug. 14, 2018, file photo, Actors Michelle Yeoh, from left, Henry Golding, Constance Wu, Ken Jeong and Awkwafina participate in the BUILD Speaker Series to discuss the film "Crazy Rich Asians" at AOL Studios in New York.

aters over the weekend.

"This (movie) is something very personal to people, and it feels like a bigger movement than just the movie itself," Chu, the director, told The Associated Press.

trayal of Singapore's ethnic diversity, with some calling it a misrepresentation of the country's minority races. Even though a majority of its residents are Chinese, a quarter of

its population are Malay, Indian, or Eurasians, with many migrant workers from other Asian countries like Bangladesh or the Philippines.

"There's this whole notion of the movie being a triumph The film has drawn criti- for representation, which is cism for its inaccurate por- very problematic. The only Indians and Malays you see are servants," said Nicholas Yong, a Singaporean journalist and author who saw the movie before its Singapore premiere.

Even though its glamorous

depiction of Singapore could give its tourism a boost, it was not entirely welcomed.

"To us, 'Crazy Rich' should not just be about the opulence and luxury showcased in the film, but Singapore's actual richness in terms of our diversity," said Singapore Tourism Board's spokesperson Lynette Pang.

As is true anywhere, in Singapore, the super-rich with their extravagant lifestyles are a tiny, privileged minority.

# Jon Stewart helps aid goats found on New York subway tracks

**NEW YORK** (AP)— Jon Stewart has helped make a home for two goats found roaming along the subway tracks in New York City.

A train operator on Monday alerted headquarters about "two

very baaaaad boys" along the N Line in Brooklyn. It wasn't clear where the goats came from.

Police arrived on the scene, tranquilized the male goats, and took them to an animal shelter. The shelter contacted Farm Sanctuary

That's when Stewart stepped in to help. In a video, Stewart is shown helping load the goats into a trailer to Farm Sanctuary. The comedian and his wife often assist transport-

ing animals found in the city to the shelter in Watkins Glen, New York.

They have partnered with the organization to open a farm and education center in New Jersey.

# Actress Kelly Marie Tran breaks silence about online harassment

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Kelly Marie Tran is breaking her si- color had taught her, that she lence about online harassment belonged "in margins and

months after deleting her Instagram account.

In an essay pub-Tuesday lished in The New York Times, the "Star Wars: The Last Jedi" actress wrote "wasn't their

words, it's that I started to believe them."

Tran deleted her Instagram account in June.

She wrote the words seemed to confirm what growing up



Tran wrote she wants to live in a world where people of all races and genders are seen as human beings.

approval."

Tran will reprise her role as Rose Tico in next year's "Star Wars: Episode IX."

# MTV arrests steep decline in its video awards show

**NEW YORK** (AP)—It may have been a lousy night for Madonna at the MTV Video Music Awards, but the event offered some glimmers of hope for the network.

The Nielsen company estimated that 5.23 million watched Monday's annual tribute to what's current in popular music across several Viacom-owned networks. While that's down from the 5.68 million who watched last year, the network appears to have slowed the show's rapid decline over the past years while showing increases in digital engagement.

MTV estimated that there had been some 141.6 million video streams of content related to the awards show for the past month—including Monday night—up from 76 million a year ago. MTV said it doesn't have an estimate of how many people streamed Monday's entire show through the network's app.

Those numbers hold a greater importance for the younger viewers that MTV

Pa.

seeks, considering how many people experience "television" now on their devices.

Among viewers aged 18 to 34, MTV topped all other cable and broadcast numbers for the period of time that the VMAs were on, Nielsen said.

Television ratings for the awards show have been shrinking rapidly in recent years. In 2015, for example, 9.8 million watched on television. In 2011, when Katy Perry was the big winner, the show had a record viewership of 12.4 million people.

MTV moved the event from Sunday to Monday this year, which is generally a better night for the network, and closer to the middle of August so there would be less competition.

The show had its moments, including a glittery Jennifer Lopez medley. Madonna received a harsh reaction for telling a story about the late Aretha Franklin that had more to do with her than the late Oueen of Soul.

# Idris Elba not shaken OR stirred by Bond questions

**LONDON** (AP)—Was that martini offered to Idris Elba at the "Yardie" premiere shaken or stirred?

Unclear, but it was a good try by a reporter looking to find out if he'll become the first black James Bond

Elba, who directed "Yarwas also hounded

by a flying insect that buzzed him and fiancee Sabrina Dhowre on the yellow carpet (We aren't referring to media who wouldn't let the Bond question go). Last week, Elba



Elba

posted a selfie on Twitter and wrote "my name's Elba, Idris Elba," echoing Bond's catchphrase. The actor acknowledged that "apparently" he set off a bit of a

firestorm "by tell-

ing people my name."

Many Elba fans have campaigned for him to be the first black James Bond over the years.

One reporter extended a martini and asked if he'd like it shaken or stirred.

Elba's response:

# Danny Boyle departs James Bond over 'creative differences'

NEW YORK (AP)—The collaborator John Hodge next James Bond movie has lost its director.

Bond producers Michael G. Wilson and Barbara Broccoli, along with star Daniel Craig, announced Tuesday that Danny Boyle has exited the project over "creative differences." Boyle, the director of "Slumdog Millionaire" and "Trainspotting," earlier this year confirmed that he would direct the 25th 007 film. Boyle and his regular were working on the script.

Production on the film, often referred to as "Bond 25," was to begin in December. The movie is to be Craig's fifth outing as James Bond, though endless speculation on his successor has been ongoing. Most recently, Idris Elba alluded to rumors of his casting by tweeting "Elba. Idris Elba."

The 25th Bond film is scheduled for U.S. release on Nov. 8 next year.

# Drake visits patient, 11, who invited him to her birthday

CHICAGO (AP) — A suburban Chicago girl awaiting a heart transplant has danced her way into a meeting with Drake.

The Canadian rapper visited 11-year-old Sofia Sanchez on Monday at the Lurie Children's Hospital during his tour's stop in Chicago. He shared photos on Instagram, saying they had talked about Justin Bieber and basketball.

Drake visited Sanchez after seeing the Downers Grove girl's video version of his song, "In My Feelings," which inspired a viral dance craze.

In her video, Sanchez dances in a hospital hallway while tethered to her IV pump, and she says she loves Drake's music and asks if he can come cheer her up for her birthday. She turned 11 on Saturday.

This Monday, Aug, 20, 2018 photo provided by the rapper Drake shows him posing with Sofia Sanchez, at Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago.

# Court says rap video was threat to police, not free speech

#### HARRISBURG.

(AP)—A rapper convicted of threatening police officers in a video posted online lost an appeal Tuesday when Pennsylvania's highest court called his lyrics "highly personalized" and ruled they were not protected by free speech rights.

The state Supreme Court turned down Jamal Knox's appeal of his conviction for witness intimidation and terroristic threats for the video that named two Pittsburgh

The justices said Knox, 24, described how he intended to kill the two officers in the

"In this way, the lyrics are

both threatening and highly personalized to the victims," wrote Chief Justice Thomas Saylor, adding that Knox spoke of when the officers' shifts ended and his plans to attack them "where you sleep."

Knox was awaiting trial when an officer found a YouTube video in 2012 of the song, which Knox argued was strictly artistic in nature and not intended as a threat to police. He denied posting it and said he did not intend it to be disseminated publicly.

Knox was facing drug charges after a chase in which he hit a parked car and a fence. Police recovered 15

bags of heroin and \$1,500 on not amount to political, so-Knox and a stolen, loaded gun in the vehicle.

The song, performed under the name Mayhem Mal of the Ghetto Superstar Committee, includes the lines: "I got my Glock and best believe dog gonna bring the pump out and I'm hittin' your chest," as well as, "Let's kill these cops 'cause they don't do us no good."

The song also references Richard Poplawski, who is on death row for the 2009 murder of three Pittsburgh police officers.

The video was taken down from YouTube after three

Saylor said the lyrics did

cial or academic commentary and did not appear to be satire or ironic.

"Rather, they primarily portray violence toward the police, ostensibly due to the officers' interference" with his activities, Saylor wrote.

One of the officers said the video shocked him and was among the reasons he left the department and relocated, Saylor said. The other officer received additional security.

Knox's lawyer offered no immediate comment, and the Allegheny County district attorney's office declined to comment, saying the decision had not been fully reviewed.

# Guests at mountain getaway come up short on gratitude

EAR ABBY: Years ago, I bought a beautiful little cottage in the North Carolina mountains as a second home. I feel very lucky to be able to afford such a luxury and have always been generous, sharing it with family and friends. However, it has reached the point where people constantly ask to use it.

Abby, my guests have left holes in cushions, bubble gum on couches and someone's child even peed in the bed. Only once in 10 years was I left with a thank-you note and a gift card to a local store. Most of the time I find a bottle of cheap wine. (I

How can I stop this? I'm being taken advantage of. I know I'm partly at fault for being so generous. This cottage was bought for me, my children and grandchildren to enjoy.

TOO GENEROUS

DEAR TOO GENEROUS: People can be taken advantage of only if they allow it. You need to learn to say no. And when (not if) you are asked why you no longer allow friends and family to use the cottage in your absence, tell the individuals exactly what you have told me about your reasons.

**DEAR ABBY:** How do you deal with having a mental disorder? I have quite a few, and I wish I didn't. At work, I feel inadequate because I'm a few steps behind everyone mentally, emotionally and socially. At home I feel the same way. The meds I take help, but I still feel inadequate.

Abby, how do I deal with these feelings? I rarely talk to my dad about it. I find more comfort in putting my feelings down on paper than talking about them with my dad. What should I do? FRUSTRATED GIRL IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR FRUSTRATED: One way to deal with your feelings would be to remember that everyone—not just you has challenges. Some people find it helpful to talk about their feelings with others who are fighting similar battles. You might feel better if you find a support group to join so you won't feel so isolated. To locate one, you and your dad should contact NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Its website is nami.org, and the toll-free helpline to call is (800) 950-6264.

DEAR ABBY: My question has to do with a present I bought for a friend's birthday. It was a gift certificate for a spa. Unfortunately, when she went to use it, the doors were locked and the place had shut down. I was very upset and embarrassed. Should I have replaced it even though I didn't have the money? UPSET AND EMBARRASSED

# DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR UPSET: You bought the gift certificate in good faith. It wasn't your fault that the spa went out of business, and you shouldn't feel guilty.

I do not think people should spend money they don't have, and you shouldn't feel obligated to do so. Explore any possible recourse for getting reimbursement for the gift certificate. If you paid for it with a credit card, your provider may credit you back the money.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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# **Pastimes**

# Calvin and Hobbes







By Bill Waterson

# **Garfield**®

IT'S THE INVASION OF THE RAVENOUS BEETLES!

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Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

# The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy













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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be

a leader and bring about change. How

you handle your money, health and legal

CROSSWO	ORD	By Euge	ene Sheffer
ACROSS	37 Bas-relief	DOWN	20 Trench
1 Aunt, in	medium	1 Airport	21 Punch
Acapul-	39 Wee bit	screening	22 Tarzan's
co	41 Opening	org.	transport
4 Carry	42 Purse	2 Debtor's	23 Corn
on	44 Summer	letters	serving
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Features service, NYC.

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch STUMPED? tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jeremy Lin, 30; Kobe Bryant, 40; Scott Caan, 42; Shelley Long, 69.

Happy Birthday: Embrace change and make it work for you Pour your heart into getting ahead professionally, financially or personally. Building new skills and gaining experience will give you a better chance to show off what you have to offer. Personal situations will escalate if you don't address issues. An adjustment to your lifestyle will make a difference. Your numbers are 4, 15, 19, 22, 28, 30, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can make a difference if you are clever about the way you help others. While assisting someone in need, one of your peers or a relative will make it possible to find a solution. Initiating patience will be an asset.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't give up when a couple of critical changes can get you back in the game. Strive for perfection, and be open to suggestions. Don't be afraid to step into the spotlight and get things done. Say less and do more. 😂

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take note what others are doing, but don't share too much about your plans. If you are too revealing, someone will take advantage of you. Focus on home, family and projects you can work on with loved ones. OOO

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Emotional stress will lead to ill health. Ease your stress by getting involved in something that brings you joy. A relationship with someone

unusual is best handled with care. A misunderstanding will get blown out of proportion.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Excessive behavior will cause worry. Whether it's you who is overreacting or someone close to you, it's better to step back and rethink the best way to handle a situation that can alter your living standard if handled improperly.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A change will do you good. Get out and meet new people, take a course or pick up skills that will help you change direction. Getting together with friends or family will lead to information that will encourage you to make a move. OOOOO

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep the peace, regardless of what others do or how they react. Use your charm and diplomacy to keep things moving forward. Stabilize your situation before you introduce the changes you want to make. Protect against theft, loss and emotional manipulation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Take pride in what you do. Look out for close friends and relatives. A change will strengthen important relationships. Be willing to try something new as well as compromise. Don't share secrets or personal information with colleagues.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Change will take place if you let your emotions take over. Keep your opinions to yourself, and avoid getting involved with people who tend to be pushy or excessive. Don't share personal information with peers.

Sudoku is a number-placing

puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with

several given numbers. The

**EUGENIA** 

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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matters will result in a better future. Home improvements will help cut monthly costs. Buying and selling are favored. Negotiate on your own

behalf. OOO

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Share your thoughts and be willing to listen to suggestions. Setting a budget will help you avoid getting talked into spending more than you can afford. Don't let a relationship lead to expenses you don't want to incur.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotions will be difficult to control when dealing with people you are helping or working alongside. Look for opportunities that allow you to secure your position and be rewarded for your input and ability. Make changes that count. Birthday Baby: You are steady, loyal and adaptable. You are persistent and intense.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

object is to place the numbers Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column 6 and each 3x3 box contains the 5 same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis 8 Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday. 3 3 6 Yesterday's Answer 9 6 1 7 6 1 3 5 2 8 9 4 5 8 2 9 5 8 4 6 7 3 2 1 2 4 3 8 1 9 7 6 5 4 9 6 7 2 3 1 5 8 1 8 3 5 6 9 1 2 4 7 2 1 2 7 5 8 4 6 3 9 5 3 1 4 9 7 6 5 8 2 6 8 2 1 4 5 9 7 3 5 5 7 9 2 3 8 4 1 6

8/23

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Difficulty Level ★★★

By DAVID WONDERWORD

HOW TO PIAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even hackward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

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Aimless, Amble, Arrive, Behind, Biking, Challenge, Clumsy, Course, Crawl, Dangle, Dawdle, Delay, Depart, Disorder Edge, Escape, Follow, Foot, Gaps, Group, Grow, Hike, Last, Lateness, Lazy, Limp, Lineup, Linger, Loiter, Loosely, Meander, Racing, Range, Route, Rove, Scatter, Shuffle, Slowly, Sole Sparse, Sprawl, Stray, Tail, Trail, Waddle, Walk, Wander, Weary Yesterday's Answer: American Idol

o purchase the WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2, order on ine at www.WonderWordBooks.com, (Contains 100 ouzzies.)



#### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB18-DLNR/DFW-136-CIF ROTA SUBMISSION/OPENIGN DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2018 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) PICK-UP TRUCK FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

<u>& NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE (ROTA BRANCH)"</u>

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGUALATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS. OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ANTHONY T. BENAVENTE SECRETARY, DLRN

/S/ MANUEL M. PANGELINAN RDH DIRECTOR. DLNR



SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 TIME: 09:00 A.M. <u>"Purchase of one (1) 45 HP tractor (a) and five (5)</u> ATTACHMENTS/IMPLEMENTS (B) FOR THE OFFICE

**OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT"** 

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKSA AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE

<u>/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.</u> ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S



SAIPAN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE Municipality of Saipan

#### **NOTICE OF REGULAR SHEFA BOARD MEETING**

accordance with 1 CMC § 9901 et seq., as amended, th Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance August 22nd. 2018 at 9:30 am at the SHEFA Office conference Room, 2nd Floor, CTC Building, Oleai, Beach Road, Saipan.

#### <u>A G E N D A</u>

- I. Preliminary Matters
- 1. Roll Call 2. Adoption of Agenda
- 3. Adoption of Minutes from July 25th, 2018
- **Public Comments**
- 1. Administrator
- 2. Chair
- 3. Committee
- a. Committee on Awards b. Committee on Appeal
- Deferments/Forbearance
- c. Committee on Policy and Procedures d. Committee on Programs and Developmen
- e. Committee on Fiscal, Legislative

#### and Community Affairs IV. Old Business

- 1 Re-examination of SHEFA Application deadling
- V. New Business
- 1. Fall 2018 application status
- 2. Discussion Increase grant-in-aid amount for both off-island and on-island recipients
- VI. Executive Session
- VII. Misc.
- VIII. Next Meeting

IX. Adjournmen

Note: Meeting may continue the following day should the need aris

## JVA for YANO Enterprises, Inc. Dba: Kinpachi Restaurant

#### Yano Enterprises, Inc.:

General Maintenance (1): Must have valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing carpentry, masonry, painting landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering raking and fertilizing, digging, installing, repairing buildings, floors

#### **Additional Requirements:**

All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.

Applicants are required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience.

Application by phone call will not be accepted.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will considered.

Interested applicants must apply in person; applications can be picked up at MISA Building Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan,

WHATZIT Solution: Sign on the dotted line

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#### **Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

#### CANCELLATION

## **Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

#### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

# **CHECK YOUR ADS**

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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# Different level of Tigermania this time around



PARAMUS, N.J. (AP)—Tiger Woods seems to be bigger now than when he was good.

Not that he's all that bad. Remember, it was just seven months ago that Woods began his year not knowing how his game would respond to four back surgeries that limited him to 19 starts on the PGA Tour and kept him out of the FedEx

Not only did he make it to the PGA Tour's version of a postseason, he starts The Northern Trust at No. 20 out of the 125 players who qualified.

Cup playoffs since 2013.

He is playing well enough to win. Even so, this is one time Woods will consider it a very good year even if he doesn't.

"No doubt," Woods said. "I didn't know if I was ever going to play again."

And that might explain the reaction to him.

It's not just the headlines he makes for finishing 12th or the shot-by-shot TV coverage at every tournament. It's the response outside the ropes that keeps getting bigger and louder, week after week, from Palm Harbor to Potomac, from the British Open to Bellerive.

Stewart Cink described the third round at the PGA Championship as "a pretty intense environment" playing with Woods, this from a man who played with him (and often lost to him) during a time when Woods looked close to unbeatable.

"I think everyone at the golf course cheers for him," Brooks Koepka said after winning the PGA Championship at Bellerive while hearing one ear-splitting cheer after another for Woods on the back nine.

Tigermania first struck in 1997 with his watershed victory at the Masters. It hit again during a stretch from 1999



through 2001, when Woods won five of six major championships and 19 out of 38 events on the PGA Tour.

And now it's back at full tilt for a guy who hasn't won in more than five years.

Some of that is because fans thought they might not ever see him play again. And some of that could be from those who wonder how much longer he'll be around.

"I think that people are more ... I guess appreciative," Woods said. "I don't want to make that sound wrong or anything, but they know that I'm at the tail end of my career, and I don't know how many more years I have left. But I'm certainly not like I was when I was 22. Forty-two, it's a different ball game."

The Northern Trust is the five-year anniversary of Woods first showing undeniable evidence of back problems, dropping to his knees with spasms during the final round on his way to a runnerup finish.

He had back surgery in the spring of 2014, two more in the fall of 2015 that kept him out of golf for more than a year and then fusion surgery on his lower spine—"the lastditch effort," he called it— in April 2017 that kept him off the PGA Tour another season.

In the midst of that, there was his woeful mug shot from a Florida jail after his Memorial Day arrest on a DUI charge from a bad mix of painkillers.

It was a low point, especially the arrest video. It had the look of being the end of his career.

That seems a distant memory now.

Woods delivered the largest crowd Tampa had ever seen for a golf tournament when he finished one shot behind at the Valspar Championship. He had Carnoustie buzzing when he had the lead for two holes during the final round of the British Open. He shot 64 in the final round at Bellerive, his lowest final round in a major and his best finish in nine years. He probably won't hear noise like that the rest of the year, except maybe at the Ryder Cup.

Woods was appointed a vice captain for the Ryder Cup in February and talked about wanting to make the team. He

Tiger Woods hits his second shot from the rough on the 17th hole during the final round of the PGA Championship golf tournament at Bellerive Country Club, Sunday, Aug. 12, 2018, in St. Louis.

was No. 106 in the standings. Twelve tournaments later, he finished 11th and is certain to be a captain's pick.

It's been a different kind of

Woods can hear it. And he

"I've had people into it over the years, but this has been so different," Woods said. "We go back to how everyone received me at Tampa. That was very special, and I had not received ovations and warmth like that. I guess everyone knows I've struggled and I've had some back pain and I've gone through four surgeries and I'm trying to work my way back. And it's been tough. People understand that."

Fans can relate to him more, even though he hasn't won.

Maybe it's because he's not winning all the time that they can relate to him more as a player instead of a machine.

Woods has used the word "blessed" just about every week. He is playing again, when a year ago he had not even been cleared to swing a club. And it doesn't hurt to get treated like a rock star everywhere he goes.

It's one thing to be looked upon with awe. That comes from winning, from the kind of dominance golf had never seen.

It's another thing to feel the

"As I've said before, this has been a blessing," he said. "But man, it's been so special to have this opportunity. I'm certainly not taking it for granted, that's for sure."

#### NEW YORK-It was the year of the US-led invasion of Iraq and the deaths of Johnny Cash, Katherine Hepburn and Bob Hope.

'Chicago' scooped the Oscar for best movie while an unknown teenage footballer by the name of Cristiano Ronaldo made his Manchester United debut.

It was 2003 and it was also the last time an American man won the US Open singles title.

That honor belonged to the now-retired Andy Roddick but, from Monday, the likes of John Isner, Jack Sock, Sam Querrey and Frances Tiafoe will try to end the longest drought for American men at their home Grand Slam.

Such an absence of New York success was once unthinkable.

Arthur Ashe won the title in 1968, the first of the Open era in the city and that sparked a of 37.

regular stream of homegrown champions.

From Ashe and Stan Smith in 1971 to Roddick in 2003, the US Open trophy was lifted by a home player on 19 occasions.

Jimmy Connors and Pete Sampras were five-time champions while John McEnroe, playing in his home city, claimed four titles.

Andre Agassi was victorious twice.

Agassi was to be runner-up in 2005 and Roddick too in the following year -- both men losing to Roger Federer.

Federer, who won the last of his US Opens in 2008, will still be amongst the favourites this year at the grand old age

Despite responsible for so much home heartbreak, the Swiss veteran now serves as a blueprint for American hopes, led this year by world number 11 John Is-

"Roger Federer, he's alien, different than anyone else," said 33-year-old Isner.

"But seeing him have some success at 34, 35, 36 years old, that's a very encouraging sign."

Isner's best run at the US Open was a quarter-final spot in 2011 but he enjoyed his most successful Slam of his career just last month, making the semi-finals of Wimbledon.

His five-set losswith a 26-24 decider—against Kevin Anderson was the second longest Slam singles match ever played, a gruelling six

hours and 36 minutes. "There will come a time

where Father Time is probably going to get the best of me. As of right now, I don't think it's there yet," added Isner, whose summer form since Wimbledon has been mixed.

A hard-court title in Atlanta was followed by opening losses at Washington and Toronto.

"I haven't done really that well at the US Open," admitted Isner, who will become a father for the first time in September.

US looks to end 15-year New York drought "I've always been solid. It's a tournament that I think is tailor-made for me."

Isner, like his compatriots, has had the misfortune of trying to win a Slam in the era of the 'Big Four' of Federer, Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray.

Since Roddick's title in 2003, every final in New York with the exception of 2014, has featured at least one of the four modern heavyweights.

With 18th-ranked Sock without a win to his name since Rome in May, home hopes will be further pinned on world number 35 Sam Querrey and Frances Tiafoe, ranked at 42.

Querrey was a quarterfinalist last year just after making the semifinals at Wimbledon.

But the 30-year-old has just three wins on hard courts all

Tiafoe, only 20, has endured three first-round losses at the US Open but pushed Federer to five sets in 2017.

Meanwhile, Serena Williams got a bit of a boost in the seedings for the U.S. Open by being placed at No. 17, nine spots above her current ranking.

The U.S. Tennis Association's decision, announced Tuesday along with all the other seeds for the main draws of women's and men's singles, means Williams avoids a possible matchup against one of the top eight players in the third round.

It also sets up a possible matchup at that stage against her older sister, Venus, who is No. 16, her ranking this week.

# Hours after trades, Nationals rally past Phillies

WASHING-TON (AP)— Andrew

Stevenson was still driving toward Nationals Park when Tuesday night's game against the Phillies began. Thanks to a lengthy rain delay, he got there in plenty of time to help Washington get the win.

Stevenson and Wilmer Difo hit back-to-back home runs in a five-run sixth inning and Washington rallied past the Phillies 10-4 on Tuesday night, hours after the Nationals traded Daniel Murphy and Matt Adams.

Stevenson, who was recalled from Triple-A Syracuse earlier in the day, tied the game with his first career homer, a two-run pinch-hit shot to center.

"He got in during the rain delay," manager Dave Martinez said. "Came to my office and I told him, 'Hey, congratulations. Happy to have to you. Get your uniform on and get loose. You might be in this ballgame."

The 24-year-old Stevenson, who spent time with the Nationals earlier this season and last, left Syracuse by car at around 3 p.m. after getting the word from manager Randy Knorr that he needed to get to Washington and no flight was available.

"(Knorr said) 'I know you're gonna be late, but they might need you the second half of the game," Stevenson said. "Ended up making it so it turned out pretty good."

Difo—starting at second base after Murphy was dealt to the Chicago Cubs—followed Stevenson's homer with a goahead shot to right off Victor Arano (1-2).

Ryan Zimmerman hit his 11th homer of the season and doubled for Washington and Matt Wieters drove in three runs with a pair of singles.

Jimmy Cordero (1-0) pitched one inning for the win.

"I would say that the Nationals have been a dangerous since opening day and they will be a dangerous team until the last game of the season," Phillies manager Gabe Kapler said. "That lineup is really good from top to bottom and they demonstrated that tonight."

# **Indians 6, Red Sox 3**

In Bostn, Center fielder Greg Allen made two superb catches to help fellow rookie Shane Bieber hold down Boston, and the Cleveland Indians beat the Red Sox 6-3 Tuesday night in a matchup of AL division leaders.

Melky Cabrera homered for the second straight game and Yan Gomes also connected for Cleveland. The Indians have won nine of 10, including the first two of the four-game se-



ries at Fenway Park.

Boston, with the best record in the majors, has lost three in a row for just the second time this season.

# Yankees 2, Marlins 1, **12** innings

In Miami, Giancarlo Stanton had two hits in his homecoming but closer Aroldis Chapman left the game accompanied by a trainer as New York beat Miami in 12 innings.

After Yankees backup catcher Kyle Higashioka raced home on a sacrifice fly in the 12th, Chapman came on trying for his 32nd save, but he departed with none out when his troublesome knee flared up.

#### **Braves 6, Pirates 1**

In Pittsburgh, Dansby Swanson had two homers and four RBI, Kevin Gausman breezed through eight innings to lead

Swanson's first homer gave the Braves a 2-0 lead in the fifth before he sent another two-run shot into nearly the same spot in the left field bleachers, extending the lead to 5-0 in the seventh. Kurt Suzuki doubled down the left-field line, scoring Ozzie Albies from first for the third run. Tyler Flowers scored on a wild pitch in the ninth to make it 6-0.

# Rays 4, Royals 1

In St. Petersburg, Blake Snell

helped Tampa Bay match a team record with 27 consecutive shutout innings and the Rays beat Kansas City.

The scoreless stretch ended when Snell (15-5) allowed a fifth-inning solo homer to Ryan O'Hearn. Snell struck out 11 and gave up four hits in six innings. The left-hander has 13 straight home starts of allowing one earned run or fewer, which is longest stretch in the majors since 1913, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

O'Hearn has five homers in 14 career games for the Royals, who dropped to 50 games (38-88) under .500.

#### Tigers 2, Cubs 1

In Detroit, Jordan Zimmermann pitched six effective innings, Victor Martinez had three hits and Detroit beat slumping Chicago.

Zimmermann (6-5) allowed **Padres 4, Rockies 3** seven hits, struck out five and walked one, continuing the Cubs' misery. Drew VerHagen, Joe Jimenez and Shane Greene combined for three innings of one-hit relief, closing out the Tigers' second win in seven games. Greene got his 27th save in 30 chances.

### Blue Jays 8, Orioles 2

In Toronto, Justin Smoak and Kendrys Morales hit backto-back home runs, Aledmys Diaz and Billy McKinney also connected, and Toronto improved to 9-0 at home against struggling Baltimore.

Blue Jays right-hander Sam Gaviglio (3-6) pitched seven innings to snap a 15-start winless streak, earning his first victory since May 25 at Philadelphia. Gaviglio allowed two runs and six hits.

## Mets 6, Giants 3

In New York, rookie Jeff Mc-Neil went 4 for 4 and hit a goahead double with two outs in the eighth inning that lifted New York past San Francisco.

McNeil equaled his career high by getting four hits for the second time since making his major league debut last month. Michael Conforto homered and drove in four runs.

Evan Longoria hit a two-run homer for the Giants, who fell to 3-5 on an 11-game road trip.

In Denver, Eric Hosmer and Austin Hedges homered off Tyler Anderson and San Diego Padres cooled off surging Colorado.

The Rockies arrived home after a 5-1 trip that included a four-game sweep of Atlanta.

The last-place Padres are 6-7 against the Rockies this season. Hedges had the big blow with a solo homer in the sixth, giving San Diego a 4-3 lead.

#### **Cardinals 5, Dodgers 2** In Los Angeles, Yadier Molina

and Marcell Ozuna slugged two-run homers, and St. Louis improved to a major leaguebest 16-4 in August.

The Cardinals have homered in 14 straight games. They won the opener 5-3 on consecutive ninth-inning homers by Jedd Gyorko and Matt Carpenter. The victory clinched their eighth consecutive series, equaling their longest streak since April 10-May 7, 2015.

St. Louis climbed to 2 1/2 games behind the NL Centralleading Cubs.

# **Astros 3, Mariners 2**

In Seattle, Josh Reddick homered to give Houston the lead and the Astros held on to beat Seattle.

Reddick's tiebreaking homer in the fourth inning put the Astros ahead 2-1, and Yuli Gurriel added an RBI single in the sixth for a two-run lead.

Seattle pulled to 3-2 in the eighth inning on Ben Gamel's RBI single to right field, but stranded the tying run at third base after pinch hitter Nelson Cruz and Dee Gordon struck out against Roberto Osuna to end the inning.

#### Diamondbacks 5, Angels 4

In Phoenix, Angels pitcher Cam Bedrosian threw wildly after fielding a sacrifice bunt attempt in the bottom of the ninth

Washington Nationals' Adam Eaton, right, steals second Philadelphia Phillies second baseman Cesar Hernandez (16) during the eighth inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2018, in Washington.

inning, allowing Jon Jay to score and give Arizona the win.

Jay was hit by a pitch to start the inning, then moved to second on John Ryan Murphy's sacrifice attempt that turned into a hit. A.J. Pollock then laid down another sacrifice try, and Bedrosian (5-3) attempted to force out Jay at third.

#### Athletics 6, Rangers 0

In Oakland, Khris Davis homered for the second straight night to move him two away from a third straight 40-homer season, backing Brett Anderson's gem as Oakland beat Texas.

Davis hit a two-run shot in the seventh for No. 38 of 2018, his fourth home run in three games and ninth in 15.

#### Twins 5, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Michael Kopech's anticipated debut for the Chicago White Sox was cut short by a rain delay, and Eddie Rosario led Minnesota to the win.

The game was tied at 2 before Minnesota pushed across three runs in the ninth. Jake Cave was thrown out when he tried to score from second on Mitch Garver's pinch-hit single, but Dylan Covey (4-11) issued an intentional walk to Joe Mauer before Rosario greeted Jace Fry with a tiebreaking RBI single into center field.

Jorge Polanco tacked on a two-run single as Minnesota won for the sixth time in eight games. Trevor May (2-0) pitched a scoreless inning for the victory, and Taylor Rogers got three outs for his second save.

# Reds 9, Brewers 7

In Milwaukee, Scooter Gennett burned his former team in a big way, hitting a tiebreaking solo homer with two out in the ninth as Cincinnati prevented Milwaukee from gaining ground in the National League playoff race.

Gennett drove a first-pitch slider from Dan Jennings (4-5) into the first row of the right-field bleachers. Cincinnati added an insurance run on Mason Williams' RBI double against Corey Knebel.

Milwaukee had tied the game in the eighth on Jonathan Schoop's first career pinch-hit homer and Ryan Braun's RBI double. The Brewers remained three games back of the NL Central-leading Chicago Cubs, who lost 2-1 at Detroit.

# Manning has no problem dealing with 'kids' on Giants



ERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Being the oldest player on the New York

Giants, Eli Manning can smile talking about the generational gap between him and some of his younger teammates.

Many of the so-called "kids" on the team were in grade school when Manning was taken with the first pick of

Some such as halfback and recent No. 2 overall pick Saquon Barkley were still in grade school when the quarterback won his first of two Super Bowl MVPs in February 2008.

And things certainly are different now. The music has morphed. The games played on the cell phones and tablets are more advanced. Phrases used in speech have changed.

Dancing on the field and in the locker room is more prevalent.

"There's a lot of dancing going on, a lot of dancing, which, I find very curious," Manning, 37, said Tuesday after the Giants practiced for their annual preseason game against the Jets. "The music, I miss out on some of the music and social media, some of the things they're on. For the most part, I can figure it out."

putting the team first is what Manning has been all about entering his 15th NFL season.

While he is certainly more laid back than most of his teammates, Manning likes to reach out to the young men. He is notorious for taking their phones and changing the language to a foreign one.

Some players have caught on, though. Odell Beckham

Building relationships and Jr. no longer uses 13-13 as his passcode to the cell phone, and other have chosen more intricate passwords. Manning is looking to get around that.

> "You've got to have fun with them and connect with them," Manning said. "There's times where it is serious and you're talking ball, they always know by the way I approach them whether I have something serious to talk about, a route or a concept or something. There's (also) times where we get to goof off and kind of get to know the lighter side of them."

> Manning jokes that he is doing a lot more dancing to connect with a younger crowd that includes Beckham, Barkley, wide receiver Sterling Shepard and tight end Evan Engram, all 25 and under.

"I think I have a good rela-

tionship with all the guys, and I'm not trying to act like I'm 22. I act my age and make fun of myself a lot, and they add to it probably and so that's fine," Manning said. "I'm good with that."

Manning's focus remains football. In recent days, he and Beckham have walked away from 11-on-11 drills between second teamers to work on pass routes and things they did not connect on in practice.

Beckham, who missed most of last season with a broken ankle, has not lost a step, Manning said.

"We've had game experience together," Manning said. "Now Saquon, that's different, just because he's a rookie and missing some valuable time. So, I know he's getting mental reps. It's different than practice reps, it's different than game reps. Hopefully, he can get back soon."

# 6JMS Mafia II clinches B Division title

fahimuddin489@gmail.com REPORTER

The top-ranked 6JMS Mafia II lived up to high expectations after crushing the underdog 6JMS Thunder Dart Impact, 8-1, in the B Division finals of the Saipan Electronic Darts Association Bud Light Cup last Tuesday.

The 6JMS Mafia II, which ruled the elimination round with its 269-109 win-loss record, capped its domination in the division after routing the fifth-ranked 6JMS Thunder Dart Impact in the title match. Udas Camacho, Derick Ayuyu, Richard Santos, Kulling Villagomez, Ray Cepeda, Rose Mary Yamada, and Nicole Robert played for the champion team, while the runner-up squad has Phil Fe-

a fun experience," Tudela said.

the organizers of the weight-

and competition was not that

organized for weightlifting,

we were able to make things

work and ran the competition

as smooth as possible," he said.

to deliver in his weightlifting

the Micro Games and I didn't

know what to expect. The

competition was good. I had

an on and off training before

because I was busy with work

and school, but after I gradu-

ated that's when I had more

"After we had the weight-

lifting qualifier at the Latte

Built Gym, I had to train with

time for training," Ada said.

As for Ada, he was relieved

"It was my first time joining

lifting competition

their limited resources.

Tudela also acknowledged

"Though training facility

despite

**TUDELA** 

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

6JMS Mafia II players pose for a photo after beating 6JMS Thunder Dart Impact, 8-1, in the B Division finals of the SEDA Bud Light Cup last Tuesday.

jeran, Rod Pergil, June Orencia, Ton Reyes, Raymond Velasco, and Edwin Liclican as members.

Meanwhile, the Masters A Division is down to four teams. The 6JMS Mafia and Amari's Nakayoshi

scheduled to clash for the first finals berth last night, while the other semis pairing featured the 6JMS Pythons and the 6JMS Proofers 151. The division finals will be played on Aug. 29.

In the A Division, four teams are vying for the last two quarterfinal berths. 6JMS Terminators will take on 6JMS Mafia I, while Jonny's Roil Soil will duel Naked Fish Ridin' Darrty on Aug. 27 for the slots to the Round of 8 where 6JMS Strikers, 6JMS Proofers, Amari's Gunners, 6JMS Predators, 6JMS Scorpions, and Drunken Warriors have already qualified.

In the C Division, the 6JMS Bulldogs will battle Jonny's Bull Hitters with the winner challenging the Dart Vaders on Aug. 29.

the team five days a week.

My experience at the Micro

Games was good. I was able to

make new friends and watch

most of the other sports," the

With Tudela and Ada com-

bining for six medals, Team

Marianas managed to get 15

from the weightlifting squad,

which also had Angel San

Nicolas, Bonny Cruz, and An-

tonette Labausa as members.

CNMI Weightlifting Federa-

tion president John Davis ac-

companied the group in Yap.

team for coming away with

15 medals and helping CNMI

climb the medal tally," Tudela

said. "We really did out best

He also hopes that their no-

table performance in the Mi-

cro Games will help promote

the sport and hopefully brings

more interest," Tudela said.

'It shines a lot of light on

the sport more in the CNMI.

and complete our lifts."

"I'm very proud of my

first-timer added.

# Emon Lodge caging kicks off Sept. 1

By FAHIM UDDIN

REPORTER

The 2018 Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League will start on Sept. 1 at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

Nine teams have confirmed their participation in the league with Armatech, MJD, Blue Haus, Pacific Island Club Saipan, Kensington Hotel, Kanoa Resort, Cell Pro, PEGS, and Pacific Postal making up the list. Island Rent A Car could be the 10th team after expressing interest to join the competition.

Games in the Emon Lodge caging will be played every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, starting at 6pm.

Coaches and team representatives had a meeting yesterday at McDonald's Middle Road to discuss details of the

#### BIG

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but by then Amber raised her game to close out the match," said Lee, who went down by only two points in the second set, 4-6, after Marshall cruised to a 6-1 triumph in the first set. "It was a tough finals."

Lee is now in Sydney, Australia to compete in another ITF Juniors world ranking tournament—the Australian Winter International. Then from the Land Down Under, she will go back to Fiji to continue training at the ITF/OTF regional facility and prepare for her last set of tournaments this year in Jeju, South Korea.

"Those tournaments will take place at the end of October and the beginning of November," said the four-time Northern Marianas Sports Association/Tan Siu Lin Foundation Female Student Athlete of the Year awardee.

opening ceremony and other league requirements, All teams are permitted to

have 15 players on their roster and 10 must be in the 40 and above age group, while the rest should be 39 years old or under. Representative and coaches of the participating teams are asked to list the complete names of their players and their jersey color. Teams must also provide organizers with a copy of the players completed registration and waiver forms.

For more information, contact Bong Malasarte at 287-5525.

# TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

# **MLB STANDINGS**

# AMERICAN LEAGUE

# **East Division**

oston	88	39	.693	_
lew York	79	46	.632	8
ampa Bay	65	61	.516	221/2
oronto	57	69	.452	301/2
altimore	37	89	.294	501/2

#### **Central Division** Cleveland .480 13 Minnesota .413 211/2 Detroit

# Chicago Kansas City **West Division** 76 .603

#### Houston 50 55 64 Oakland Seattle 72 Los Angeles 63 .567

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division Atlanta 70 55

Philadelphia	68	57	.544	2
Washington	63	63	.500	7½
New York	55	70	.440	15
Miami	50	77	.394	21
Central D Chicago St. Louis Milwaukee	ivis 71 70 70	53 57 58	.573 .551 .547	
Pittsburgh	63	64	.496	9½
Cincinnati	56	70	.444	16

# **West Division**

70	56	.556	_
68	57	.544	11/2
67	60	.528	31/2
62	65	.488	81/2
50	78	.391	21
	67 62	68 57 67 60 62 65	68 57 .544 67 60 .528 62 65 .488

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rodrigo Ada proudly shows the three medals he won in the weightlifting event in last month's 9th Micronesian Games in Yap.

# **VILLACRUSIS**

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event debut.

working hard and step up.

"To everybody from SSC and Tsunami Saipan, keep swimming hard and make the most out of the opportunities given to us by the federation. We have many big meets coming up, including the Worlds (world championships) and the

Mini Games (2021 Pacific Mini Games), so make sure to give it your all," Villacrusis said.

"I would also like to thank you guys for all the good times. I genuinely love all of you. You all know that I consider you guys as my family and I hope I was able to help 'break the wall' enough while I was there, right Juhn (Tenorio)?" he added.

Villacrusis also thanked those who allowed him to try other sports.

"While swimming was my main sport, it helped me become more athletic and I eventually made my way into triathlon, representing the CNMI in the Philippines. I was gifted with another great experience by Ricky Castro and TRAC (Triathlon Association of the

CNMI), so I would like to thank them for giving me this opportunity and supporting me along the way," he said.

Villacrusis added he will always represent the Commonwealth every time he races in the U.S.

"I will always remember where I am from and will continue to represent the CNMI in the mainland."

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018 **27** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# CNMI Athletics Team at 9th Micronesian Games

## **CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS**





The female members of the CNMI Athletics Team pose for a photo at the conclusion of their competition in last month's 9th Micronesian Games in Yap.

The CNMI's Tyler Santos, center, races in the 1,500m run.



Douglas Schmidt, right, joins other winners in the 400m run.



The CNMI's N-Nes Siech joins the 1,500m run.



The CNMI's Gabriel Sappa, second left, pushes himself hard during the 200m run.



Douglas Schmidt competes in the triple jump event.



Orrin Pharmin does the shotput event in the octathlon competition.



Members and officials of the CNMI Athletics Team pose for a photo after arriving at the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport.

Saipan Tribune

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**28** THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Big leanfor Garol Villacrusis eyes swimming in collegiate level



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com

arol Lee jumped several notches up in the ITF Juniors Circuit world rankings, as the CNMI bet is now at No. 166. This is the 16-year-old's highest ranking so far under the elite group of junior players in the world, surpassing the No. 178 she obtained early this year. The big leap was made possible by Lee's finals appearance in last week's Oceania Closed Junior Championships 2018 in Fiji—a B2 tournament (fifth in the order of importance/ most ranking points awarded). Before playing in the Oceania Closed, the Commonwealth junior player was ranked No. 218.

# Tudela, Ada bask in glory of Micro Games success

By FAHIM UDDIN fahimuddin489@amail.com Weightlifters Joey Tudela and Rodrigo Ada relived their medal-winning performances in last month's 9th Micronesian Games in Yap.

Tudela gained a pair of silver





medals and one bronze in the men's 85-kg division, while Ada had the same results in the men's 94-

kg weight class. Both were proud with their output and experience in the quadrennial competition.

I was happy and proud that I was able to earn medals for the CNMI at the Micro Games. I was very happy that I successfully lifted the weights and recorded personal bests. These accomplishments made all my hard work and training the past couple months worth it. Micro Games was

See TUDELA on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Joey Tudela competes in men's 85kg division of the weightlifting event in last month's 9th Micronesian Games



Lee climbed up to the world rankings, as she earned 95 points marching for into the singles

title game against eventual champion and Australia's Amber Marshall, who collected 160. The points Lee got from the Oceania Closed was her highest in a singles event. She gained 60 when she won the South Pacific Junior Championships that was also held in Fiji last June and 30 each in the 2017 Seogwipo Asia/Oceania Closed Junior Championships (quarterfinalist), 2018 Northern Marianas Junior Championships (winner), and 2018 Oceania Open Junior Championships (winner). Lee added 20 points from the 30th Sarawak Chief Minister's Cup (II) ITF Junior Circuit for making it to the Round of 8 of the Grade 3 event in Malaysia, bringing her total ranking points in singles to 265.

In doubles, the CNMI junior player still has 142 for the combined 300.5 ranking points. Lee's highest earned points in the doubles was the 27 she tallied in the 1st ITF Perlis Junior Championship 2017 in Malaysia, while she gained 25 each for winning the doubles crown in the Northern Marianas Junior Championships and Oceania Open this year.

Meanwhile, Carol admitted to facing a tough opponent in Marshall in the finals of the Oceania Closed last week.

"Amber played really well and very solid. I started off pretty slow and fought back in the second set,

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By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

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Saipan Swim Club's Christian Villacrusis hopes to race in collegiate level when

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he moves to Oregon.

"I am moving to Oregon so that I can continue my studies and swim career in George Fox University," Villacrusis told Saipan Tribune.

George Fox University is a Division III school and just hired a new head coach in Natalie Turner. The Bruins compete in the Northern Conference and are the only Christian school in Oregon to offer men's and women's swimming as intercollegiate sport for the 2018-2019 school year. George Fox's new season won't open until this October.

At George Fox, Villacrusis will be majoring in exercise science.

"I plan on becoming a physical therapist," the Mt. Carmel School graduate said.

With Villacrusis leaving SSC this fall, he hopes other swimmers of the club and future members of the CNMI national team will continue

> See VILLACRUSIS on Page 26



Christian Villacrusis gets out of the pool after racing in the 12th Oceania Swimming Championships held in Papua New Guinea in June this year.